FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 MAY 1983

Lebanon

Political Developments — Lebanon negotiated the agreement with Israel on behalf of Lebanese and Arab interests, "including the interests of sister Syria," Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan told the Cabinet in remarks reported by Beirut radio. He said Lebanon will prove it is fully aware of these interests, which are harmed by the misinterpretations of the agreement expressed by "some people." The prime minister also stressed that U.S. participation in the agreement was a negotiating option, not an alignment of Lebanon's policy.

Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt called for the formation of a "broad political and military front" to oppose the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and combat "Phalangist dominance," AFP reported. The opposition front should, if necessary, remove areas under its control from the authority of the state and establish its own political, military, and economic organization, he said.

Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon broadcast the text of a memorandum from northern leaders to the government condemning the "inauspicious agreement" for placing Lebanon "in Israel's orbit" and denouncing attempts to impose "one-party authority" throughout the country. On the other hand, Phalangist Party leader Pierre al-Jumayyil declared at a Lebanese Front meeting that, in light of Syria's opposition to the "liberation" of Lebanon, "the brothers and friends" are now the problem since the Israeli problem has almost ended, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported.

Syrian Position — Reacting to President Reagan's recent statement,Damascus radio said Reagan referred to Syria as if it were part of his domain. Syria makes its own decisions, the radio emphasized, and it placed the "card" of the withdrawal of its forces at Lebanon's disposal to help the latter remove Israeli forces in accordance with UN resolutions. The radio added that there has been no agreement or understanding that Syrian forces would withdraw when Israel gains from its invasion or "annexes one-third of Lebanon" into its security sphere, including areas adjacent to Syria.

In another development unofficial sources cited by Beirut radio said Lebanese-Syrian negotiations will start next week. Meanwhile, the Syrians reopened roads to Beirut, according to Radio Free Lebanon. Telephone links between Beirut and eastern Lebanon remain cut, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Rupture With Libya — The Foreign Ministry informed a Libyan official that Salih ad-Duruqi, secretary of the people's committee of Libya's brotherhood bureau, should not return to Beirut, according to Beirut radio. Meanwhile, Libya called on the Arab League to adopt measures against Lebanon similar to those applied to Egypt after the Camp David accords, JANA noted.

Israeli-U.S. Agreement — The newly signed Israeli-U.S. memorandum of understanding recognizes Israel's right to self-defense against "terrorist actions" from inside Lebanese territory, and "some people"interpret this as permission to pursue terrorists beyond Israel's northern border, IDF Radio reported.

PLO

PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir arrived "unexpectedly" in Amman for talks with members of the PLO office in Jordan reviewing the current Arab situation and Palestinian developments in light of the recent Lebanese-Israeli accords, INA and Radio Monte Carlo reported. He is also expected to meet with Jordanian officials. Meanwhile, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat inspected Palestinian forces in Al-Biqa' for the fourth consecutive day, according to Baghdad Voice of PLO radio. Prior to his visit to Al-Biqa', 'Arafat presided over a meeting of the PLO's Higher Military Council which discussed the overall military situation, PLO combat readiness, and the possibility of escalating guerrilla operations behind the "enemy's rear lines," the radio added.

Jordan-West Bank

Jordan's latest measures restricting entry across bridges from the West Bank illustrate its insistence on obstructing Israeli plans to empty the West Bank and Gaza of their Palestinian inhabitants, Amman radio affirmed. The "most important bastion" against the Israeli settlement program will remain the Palestinians' steadfastness and insistence on remaining in their homeland despite all kinds of daily suffering, the radio added.

GCC Mission to Iraq

After visiting Tehran earlier, a GCC mission led by the Kuwaiti and UAE foreign ministers met with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and discussed the situation in the Gulf area and the Arab region, INA reported. Subsequently, Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir told WAKH that the results of the talks, which dealt with the war and efforts to end it, were "very good." The ministers will report on their talks to the GCC Ministerial Council meeting being held in Riyadh to discuss ways to end the Iran-Iraq war, stop the leakage of oil polluting the Gulf waters, and review the Lebanese-Israeli Accord, SPA reported.

Iran

Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam will visit Syria to deliver a message from President 'Ali Khamene'i to President Hafiz al-Asad on current developments in the region and Iran's stand on them, SANA reported. The Iranian official will also deliver a similar message to Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the report added. Earlier, the Iranian Foreign Ministry issued a statement calling the Lebanese-Israeli

agreement a "hostile" move against the Islamic world and "treason to the Palestinian cause," IRNA reported. It also pledged Iran's "total" support for Syria in its resistance and advocated "vigorous and all-out struggle" against the United States and Israel.

Sudan

Mutiny — The Armed Forces have crushed a mutiny by a detachment in the southern region, according to a General Command announcement reported by SUNA. Noting that the detachment had refused to obey recent orders to change location, the statement said decisive measures became imperative after the troops continued their indiscipline as a result of "foreign contacts and instigations." Government forces seized large quantities of weapons brought from abroad "as part of the criminal designs against Sudan," the statement added.

Stand on Lebanon — President Ja'far Numayri expressed support for Lebanese President Amin Al-Jumayyil and sharply criticized Syria for plotting against Lebanon's security and stability, according to a statement carried by SUNA. The Syrians rejected the Israeli-Lebanese agreement because they realized it would be an obstacle to their "colonialist schemes" in Lebanon, Numayri said.

YAR

President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih told the People's Constitutional Council that he will not nominate himself for another presidential term after his current term expires in July, QNA reported.

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PLO's Khalid al-Wazir Meets PLO Officials in Jordan

JN181736 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1659 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Amman, 18 May (INA) — Khalid al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has met with several officials in the PLO office in Jordan.

The meeting reviewed the current Arab situation, particularly the developments of the Palestinian cause and the recent Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

Khalil al-Wazir is expected to meet with several Jordanian officials later.

Visit to Jordan Discussed

JN191122 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 19 May 83

[Text] Fatah Central Committee member Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, has stated that his current visit to Jordan does not have any special political meaning. He added that he came to Jordan to discuss the problems of the Palestinians in the occupied Arab territories.

Abu Jihad ruled out a possible meeting with King Husayn before he returns to Damascus today. Yasir 'Arafat, who is currently in Damascus, does not intend to visit Amman at present.

Discusses Al-Biqa' Mutiny

JN190943 Amman Ar-Ra'y in Arabic 19 May 83 pp 1, 23

[Dispatch by Ghazi as-Sa'di]

[Text] Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the PLO forces, yesterday disclosed to *Ar-Ra'y* facts about the rebellion attempt by the Fatah forces' ranks in Al-Biqa'.

In an exclusive interview with *Ar-Ra'y*, Khalil al-Wazir, who arrived in Amman yesterday to take part in the meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee, gave details of the abortive attempt about which there were conflicting reports and interpretations. He said: One week ago Colonel Abu Musa and a group of elements tried in an indisciplined manner, to take control of some military units, imagining that such action would be supported by the other units in the Al-'Asifah forces. Abu Musa took control of two of the Al-Yarmuk forces' battalions stationed in the 'Aynata area in Al-Biqa'. Upon hearing of this behavior, which Abu Jihad described as irresponsible, the Command sent delegates to inform Abu Musa of the need to end this action and return to his post in Damascus. However, he refused to comply. In the wake of this refusal the expanded Military Council held several sessions attended by officers representing the Al-'Asifah, Al-Karamah, Al-Qastal, Ajnadin, and Al-Yarmuk forces as well as the militias, the Palestine Liberation Army, and the Shaqif and Badr forces in Al-Biqa', in addition to all military organs and officials. The Military Council unanimously rejected and completely condemned this method of action and called on the rebels on behalf of the expanded Military Council to restore the previous situation and for Abu Musa to return to his place of work. The Council decided to send a delegation representing all the forces, units and organs to inform Abu Musa of the seriousness of his action and of its rejection of this indisciplined action. The delegation also told him that all the subjects he wanted to discuss could be discussed according to regulations and within the framework of the existing military and political establishments.

Abu Jihad added: At this time in particular the personnel of the two battalions realized the seriousness of this action and began to leave the two battalions and join the Al-Yarmuk forces' command. Only 17 elements from the first battalion and 21 elements from the second battalion remained with Abu Musa. Thus, the Fatah command dealt with this behavior through wisdom, patience, and democratic dialogue without resorting to force and the use of arms despite the fact that it was a mutiny. It did so taking into consideration the delicate circumstances and the possible eruption of the situation with the Zionist enemy, leaving the others the chance to judge their action in their isolation. [sentence as published]

Abu Jihad stressed that no clash or firing took place among the Palestinian forces anywhere, contrary to the claims made by this small rebellious group to create confusion in the Palestinian forces' ranks and the Palestinian people in their various places of residence. He added that the decision is still that of dealing with this situation patiently and through democratic dialogue. He said that all armed factions had realized the nature and seriousness of the action undertaken by this rebellious group, particularly in the wake of the current circumstances in which all forces are on alert to confront any possible Zionist aggression in Al-Biqa' and the north.

Abu Jihad added: All forces and units are carrying out their duties normally and are displaying intense caution and vigilance against any eventualities or expectations. He said: Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] visited Al-Biqa', met with the cadres, officers, and fighters, and put them in the picuture. Brother Abu 'Ammar also stressed the need for further vigilance and preparedness to confront the grave developments and eventualities expected in the region.

Regarding the statements recently issued against the PLO leadership in the name of the Al-'Asifah Forces' General Command, Abu Jihad said: Some are trying to exploit this incident by issuing false statements calling for thereinstitution of Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], whose duties were previously frozen by the Fatah Central Committee due to his wrong actions and relations with outside quarters. The Libyan news agency and radio disseminated these statements and tried through lies and fabricated news reports to say that there was a revolution inside the Fatah movement led by Abu Salih, who is well known for connections and acts that were condemned by the movement. These abortive attempts explain the nature of plotting against the Fatah movement and the Palestinian resistance in an attempt to split and weaken the Palestinian ranks at a time when we are facing menacing dangers, confronting the enemy with all means, and are the target of a U.S. offensive represented by the statements of Reagan, Shultz and other U.S. officials, in addition to the rabid Israeli offensive.

On the current situation and its possibilities, Abu Jihad said: What is required is a quick Arab move on all levels to reconsider the situation and adopt the steps dictated by the serious circumstances surrounding us so that we will not be surprised by the Israeli measures preceding our confrontation steps.

'Arafat's Activities in Syria, Lebanon Reported

In Damascus 18 May

GF181834 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander of the Palestinian revolution forces, returned to Damascus today after making tours all day yesterday of the military units belonging to the Palestinian resistance that are stationed in Lebanon. During this tour in which he was accompanied by Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander of the Palestinian revolution forces, and Brigider General Abu al-Mu'tasim, chief of the central operations room and deputy chief of staff, Abu 'Ammar visited the Al-Karamah forces and the Palestine Liberation Army that are stationed in Al-Biqa' as well as the military positions of the Palestinian resistance in eastern Lebanon.

Brother Abu 'Ammar left for Al-Biqa' yesterday in order to inspect the military readiness of the Palestinian forces and their ability to deter any likely Zionist attack against the Palestinian revolution forces and the Syrian forces that are stationed in Al-Biqa' region.

Revisits Al-Biqa' Valley

JN181730 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, for the fourth consecutive day inspected the Palestinian forces in Al-Biqa'.

During his visit, Brother Abu 'Amman listened to reports from the commanders of the Palestinian units in Al-Biqa' on the miltiary situation in light of the Zionist troop concentrationsand threats and on the Palestinian forces' preparedness to confront any new Zionist aggression.

Before leaving for Al-Biqa', Brother Abu 'Ammar presided over a meeting of the Higher Military Council of the Palestinian revolution. Our correspondent has learned that the council discussed the general military situation, particularly in light of the Zionist troop concentrations and threats against the Palestinian revolution. The council also discussed the overall situation of the Palestinian forces, their combat preparedness for confronting any eventuality and the possibility of developing and escalating fedayeen operations behind the Zionist enemy's rear lines.

Libya Demands Arab League Measures Against Lebanon

LD182332 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 2105 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Tripoli, 18 May (JANA) — The Popular Bureau for Foreign Liaison has presented a memorandum to the Arab League in which it demands that the same measures and decisions that were carried out against Egypt after it had signed the David Stables agreement of treason now be applied against the Lebanese Government. These measures were taken by the conference of Arab ministers of foreign affairs, economy and finance held in Baghdad in March 1979.

The memorandum says that the agreement of humiliation and capitulation signed by the Lebanese Government with the Zionist enemy is considered to be a retreat from Arab consensus and a telling blow to the struggle and steadfastness of the Arab nation against the Zionist aggression on its territories and sanctity. It is also considered to be a violation of the Arab League Charter, the common defense pact and the resolutions of the Arab summits of Algiers, Rabat and Baghdad, which had adopted the principles that no Arab state should ignore or play down. These principles include the fact that no Arab party should unilaterally seek a solution to the Palestinian question or the Arab-Zionist conflict in general, and that there should be no negotiations, peace treaty or recognition of the Zionist enemy.

The memorandum affirms that the signing of this agreement by the Lebanese Government is considered to be an abandonment of the rights of the Arab nation, especially its fundamental issue, Palestine, and that it puts the security and existence of the entire Arab nation in jeopardy.

The memorandum notes that this surrender agreement has led to the partitioning of Lebanon and to the consecration of the Zionist occupation of Lebanon, a matter that diminishes its sovereignty and independence as well as its territorial integrity.

The Popular Committee of the Popular Bureau for Foreign Liaison emphasizes to the Arab League that by signing this unilateral agreement, which represents another link of the David Stables treason agreement, Lebanon has discarded its responsibilities to the Arab nation, and through collusion with the United States it has chosen to stand in the same rank as the Zionist enemy. By so doing it has violated the rights of the Arab nation, laid its fate open to dangers and challenges and foregone its pan-Arab duty to liberate the Arab lands and to retrieve the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

Official Denies Suspension Requested

LD182246 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1602 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Beirut, 18 May (KUNA) — Mr Hammadi as-Sayd, representative of the Arab League secretary general, today denied that the Libyan Jamahiriyah had requested the suspension of Lebanon's membership in the Arab League.

In a statement to KUNA, he said that the Libyan Jamahiriyah had requested an urgent Arab summit.

There were unofficial reports in the Lebanese capital that Libya had requested the suspension of Lebanon's membership in the Arab League because of signing the agreement with Israel.

Mr As-Sayd added: "What is important now is not to have any divisions in the Arab body. We currently consider the Lebanese-Syrian move [as received] concerning the situation in the area as the basis for any Arab move."

Mr As-Sayd will today go to Tunis after completing a 10-day visit to Beirut during which he met Lebanese officials representing many views.

As-Sayd told KUNA: "After our investigative visit and its positive results, we will convey today to the secretary general of the Arab League, Chedli Klibi, a general idea regarding all that happened in the area during our stay. We will discuss with the secretary general the measures needed to achieve a united Arab stand, especially toward the causes of destiny."

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Ministerial Council Meets in Riyadh

Council Agenda

GF181510 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0940 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Manama, 18 May (WAKH) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah left Manama for Riyadh today to participate in the meetings of the seventh regular session of the GCC Ministerial Council due to begin there tonight.

In a statement prior to departure, the Bahraini foreign minister told WAKH that during its meetings the council will discuss the results of the visit made by Shaykh Al-Ahmad Al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and information minister, and Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, to Tehran and Baghdad, which was assigned to them by the GCC to discuss the political and technical aspects of the oil slick problem with officials in Iran and Iraq.

He added that during the meetings the current Arab situation, particularly the agreement between Lebanon and Israel, will also be discussed. He pointed out that the foreign ministers will discuss the adoption of definite stances on this agreement,which will represent the point of view of the GCC.

He said that the ministers will also discuss the results of the previous meetings of the Ministerial Council which were held within the framework of the GCC, particularly the recent emergency meeting in Bahrain, in addition to the subjects discussed by various committees of the GCC.

Council Session Opens

LD181538 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1518 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Riyadh, 18 May (SPA) — The seventh session of the GCC Ministerial Council started at 1700 at the GCC General Secretariat building in Riyadh.

At the beginning of the session Bahraini Minister of Foreign Affairs Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah made a speech in which he welcomed the participating ministers and reviewed the issues which will be discussed during the seventh Ministerial Council session.

Afterward, the meeting went into a closed session to discuss the issues on the agenda.

19 May Meeting

LD190922 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0849 GMT 19 May 83

[Text] 19 May (SPA) — The GCC Ministerial Council this morning resumed the proceedings of its seventh session at the headquarters of the council's General Secretariat in Riyadh. They are following up and discussing the items on the agenda, including developments in the Arab region, the oil slick from the Iranian Nowruz well, and means of remedying the pollution that has resulted from the flow of oil into the waters of the Gulf in light of the visits made by the Kuwaiti and UAE foreign ministers to Tehran and Baghdad. The council will also discuss the reports prepared by the various ministerial committees.

The Ministerial Council began its seventh session yesterday evening.

BAHRAIN

French Deputy Defense Minister Begins 2-Day Visit

Received by Amir

GF181654 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Manama, May 18 (WAKH) — The Amir of Bahrain His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah received today a message from French President Francois Mitterrand on bilateral relations.

The message was conveyed by French ambassador to Bahrain Rene Molinari.

Meanwhile Shaykh 'Isa received French Deputy Defense Minister Francois Ottein and his accompanying delegation.

Mr Ottein arrived here earlier today on a 2-day visit to Bahrain as a part of a tour of the region countries.

Meets With Heir Apparent

GF181612 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1410 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Manama, 18 May (WAKH) — Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Bahraini heir apparent and commander general of the Bahrain Defense Force, received this afternoon French Deputy Defense Minister Francois Ottein who is currently visiting Manama.

Bilateral relations and the issues of mutual interest particularly with respect to military cooperation were reviewed during the meeting.

The audience was attended by Yusuf Ash-Shirawi, Bahraini minister of development and industry and acting minister of state for cabinet affairs; Staff Brigadier General Shaykh Khalifah ibn Ahmad Al Khalifah, chief of staff of the Bahrain Defense Force; and Rene Gabriel Molinari, French ambassador to Bahrain.

Libyan Emissary Visits Manama 18 May

GF181219 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1030 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Manama, 18 May (WAKH) — Qadhaf ad-Dam, Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's envoy, arrived in Manama from Saudi Arabia today on a short visit to Bahrain.

The envoy was received upon his arrival by Bahraini Foreign Affairs Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah.

Report on Departure
GF182000 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Manama, 18 May (WAKH) — Mr Ahmad Qadhaf ad-Dam, envoy of Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, left Manama this evening following a visit to the State of Bahrain which lasted several hours.

He was seen off at the airport by Bahraini Interior Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah.

KUWAIT

Government To Withdraw Amendment Proposals
GF181147 Kuwait Arab Times in English 17 May 83 P 1

[Text] The Kuwaiti Government is to drop its proposals to amend the constitution.

The minister of justice, legal and administrative affairs, Shaykh Salman ad-Du'ayj as-Sabah told the news media at a television seminar yesterday that a decree was being prepared withdrawing the draft law on the amendment of constitutional clauses.

Shaykh Salman ad-Du'ayj said that both government and assembly members had sensed that the atmosphere for objectivity and calmness necessary to debate such an issue was "no longer available." He said that "certain sensitivities" had prevailed which prevented pursuance of the amendment procedures "in the appropriate manner."

In addition, he said, important issues had occured in Kuwait and the region as a whole which had occupied the government's prior attention.

The minister said a number of deputies who had tentatively approved the proposals "felt the same" and had presented a memorandum to HH the amir on May 4, asking him to handle the matter. The assembly speaker had himself visited the amir yesterday and had asked for a suitable solution to the issue.

The government was, therefore, preparing the draft decree to withdraw the proposals until a more suitable time.

The minister said that when the government had tabled its proposals, it made clear that the constitution was generally adequate for the country's administration, and that the amendments were only to clarify certain clauses and to introduce new ones which it felt were needed after 20 years of parliamentary experience.

Shaykh Salman said the government had found "positive signs" from the assembly when the majority agreed the amendments in principle.

The government had hoped the understanding would also be found in the assembly's Legislative and Legal Committee report on the amendments, but this had not been so.

Shaykh Salman emphasised that the dialogue between the assembly and the government represented both respect for the constitution and a serving of the public interest.

KUNA, TASS Sign Cooperation Agreement
LD180122 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1002 GMT 17 May 83

[Text] Kuwait, 17 May (KUNA) -- An agreement to broaden cooperation between KUNA and TASS was signed here today by the chairman of the board and director general of KUNA, Barjis Hammud al-Barjis, and TASS Director General Sergey Losev, who arrived here last night.

The agreement has 18 articles and 31 supplements. It grants each of the agencies the right to receive the news of the other and to make use of it in their own news dispatches. The two sides [words indistinct] telegraphic contact between Kuwait and Moscow via Rome through which they will transmit KUNA's and TASS' dispatches in Arabic and English and the reports of the correspondents of the two agencies in Moscow and Kuwait.

The agreement remains in force until 31 December 1985 (?and will be automatically renewed from year to year until) one of the two sides expresses the wish to reconsider.

The agreement also stipulates that TASS and KUNA will study the possibility of exchanging visits by officials and experiences in journalistic work, photography and technological achievements. The two sides have agreed to send each other urgent photographs by radio or telephone for distribution in Kuwait and the Soviet Union. They have also agreed to exchange via air mail pictures pertaining to news of industry, agriculture, science, technology, culture and sports in the two countries and also important events abroad.

The TASS-KUNA agreement has come about after fruitful cooperation between the two agencies which stemmed from the cultural and scientific exchange programs between Kuwait and the Soviet Union signed in Kuwait on 10 September 1978.

KUNA has signed agreements for the exchange of news with a number of international and regional news agencies.

The signing ceremony was attended by the new Soviet ambassador to Kuwait, Pavel Akopov; the sales and distribution manager of TASS, (Igor Derzhitskiy); the deputy director general of KUNA, Ahmad Husayn Dashti; and Chief Editor Muhammad Ahmad al-'Ujayri.

Al-Watan Condemns Israeli-Lebanese Agreement
LD170913 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0755 GMT 17 May 83

[Text] Kuwait, 17 May (KUNA) — The editorial in today's *Al-Watan warns that "the Lebanese-Israeli agreement on the* withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon, in its present form, paves the way for subduing the whole area under American-Israeli hegemony and what the United States is asking for at present is that no one should raise his hand."

Commenting on the agreement which was formulated by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz during his recent visit to the Middle East, theh paper writes that "President Reagan has actually asked the Arab leaders to cancel the Fes Arab summit conference resolutions particularly those political parts pertaining to any peaceful Arab-Israeli settlement."

"The Israeli flags will flutter over all Arab capitals," the paper adds, "if the peoples' heads remain bowed." U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has issued his threats. The paper notes that the threats, though directed against some of the rulers, are intended in fact against the peoples and countries and their interests."

The paper adds that "the next role of the Zionist aggression forces will concentrate on Syria through Lebanon, and on other countries too through Lebanon. The Americans are taking up positions in Lebanon to turn it into a NATO base."

The paper draws attention to the fact that "in essence, the agreement brings to an end the state of war between Lebanon and Israel, consecrates Lebanon's recognition of Israel, and cancels any Lebanese commitment to anything hostile to Israel in theory as well as in practice."

The basic provisions of the agreement, the paper says, place or should place Lebanon in a state of "alliance" with Israel and in a state of hostility toward everything Arab or non-Arab that is hostile to Israel. It also removes Lebanon from its Arab and international sphere and endorses the Israeli occupation of Lebanon. At best, the agreement is tantamount to a disengagement tied to absolute and total political commitment to Israel.

OMAN

Government Announces Support for Lebanon Accord

GF181710 Doha QNA in Arabic 1318 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Muscat, 18 May (QNA) — Mr Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, announced the support of the Sultanate of Oman for the efforts made by Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and his government to achieve a complete Israeli withdrawal from the Lebanese territory.

In a statement to the QNA correspondent in Muscat, the Omani minister said that the Sultanate of Oman believes that whatever is agreeable to the legislative and executive bodies in Lebanon must be in the interest of Lebanon and whatever is approved by the Lebanese Government and whatever it deems to be in its interest will be supported by the Sultanate of Oman.

SAUDI ARABIA

Libyan Envoy Concludes Visit to Kingdom

LD181027 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0944 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Dhahran 18 May (SPA) — Ahmad Qadhaf ad-Dam, envoy of the Libyan leader, left Dhahran at noon today after a few days visit during which he was received in audience by His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. He was seen off at the airport by Governor of the Eastern Region His Royal Highness Prince 'Abd al-Muhsin ibn Jalawi, and a number of officials.

Press Comment on Lebanese-Israeli Agreement

Arab Rejection Assailed

PM171027 Jidda 'Ukaz in Arabic 12 May 83 p 3

[Article by international affairs editor: "The Dangers of Negative Arab policies"]

[Text] The recent Lebanese-Israeli agreement has exposed the negative aspects of the political practices of certain Arab states. When shifting from the stage of uttering slogans designed to dazzle the masses to the stage of making decisions, these states find themselves unable to distinguish, with political soundness and clarity, between what is real and possible and what is impossible. This results in the emergence of trends which reject the real and the possible and opt for the impossible which could in turn destroy every chance of restoring the usurped Arab and Palestinian rights.

In their dealing with local, regional or international sides, the Arabs should understand the well-known political axiom that there are only two ways to regain usurped rights: war and negotiation. Even if we choose war the settlement of the issues resulting from the war must be done through negotiation which ultimately dictates the relationship between the negotiating parties.

No war in the history of mankind had settled the issues over which the war was fought. At the end of a war there is bound to be victor and vanquished. Hard negotiations follow to settle the issues which caused the war.

After several wars we, the Arab nation, have chosen the path of peaceful negotiations to wrest our rights from the Zionist state. The decision to opt for peaceful negotiations was not a majority decision. It was a unanimous decision. The Arab unanimous decision was based, among other things, on the fact that the Arab peace plan would need power to support it and give the mechanism for actual implementation at the regional and international levels. This mechanism is Arab credibility with a stress on Arab solidarity and unity of ranks and utilization of all Arab resources with a sense of realism in order to attain the possible without colliding with the Arab and international impossibles.

A clever and active Arab diplomacy can utilize what is possible and through it even achieve the impossible. However, the problem or the disease of certain Arab policies is that they ignore what is real and possible in order to pursue what is impossible — which they cannot achieve — and when they fail, they blame their failure on others before re-examining their own attitude. This weakens Arab credibility and prevents the crystallization of national Arab positions and pressure for an end to the chronic conflict in the Middle East.

The Lebanese have managed to play the game of the real, the possible and the impossible in their negotiations with the Israelis

and the Americans and they have done it with exceptional skill. They managed to benefit from the Arab pressure power in order to achieve what is impossible without clashing with the impossible. In fact, they made it possible to accomplish the impossible. Despite its weak political, military, and economic capabilities in the fact of Israel, Lebanon was able to gain its full sovereignty rights.

The problem is that now that Lebanon has got the agreement we see certain Arab sides rejecting it without realizing the dangers inherent in their rejection. In view of the present conditions in the region, a rejection of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement is a service to the Zionist state and to Soviet influence in the region. There is no doubt that if this rejection takes its full course it will lead to a military adventure which could mean occupation of more Arab territory.

We want to tell those who gamble on the Soviets that the Soviets run faster than deer in times of crisis. Although they are staging a television dramatization of their presence in the Arab region, they disappear behind the borders when the situation becomes serious.

Our supreme Arab interests dictate that we should be moderate and rely on our intrinsic power because it is the only guarantee of success for our efforts.

Saudi Stand Lauded

GF180646 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 18 May 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Clarity of Pure Stands" *Ar-Riyad* writes:

In the information minister's statement yesterday, the Kingdom reaffirmed its permanent and clear stand on dealing with the aggression to which the Arab homeland is being subjected when it respected the legitimate Lebanese Government, stressing the necessity of the withdrawal of the aggressor Israeli forces from Lebanon as an Arab right. Lebanon's independence will hold no meaning of stability, opulence and tranquillity unless this is based upon the assurance of its territory, the departure, and the elimination of aggression and its effects. The Kingdom has adopted the same stand on every previous aggression against Sinai, the Golan and the West Bank. The Saudi stand is still clear and loud against the tyranny of hostile attacks launched against surrounding parties by Israel — Israel, which is a collusive, usurping entity acting against the entity and independence of the Arab nation.

Signing of Accord Viewed

LD181411 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 May 83

[From the "Analyses" program by 'Abdallah Sulayman al-Khurayyis]

[Text] The first signing in Arabic and French of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement on withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanese territory took place yesterday in Khaldah, Lebanon. The second signing took place in Qiryat Shemona, Al-Khalisa, in occupied Palestine, in Hebrew and English. The agreement was reached under U.S. supervision through its Secretary of State George Shultz, who carried out a shuttle tour between Beirut and Tel Aviv.

At the start of the tour he announced that he was determined not to leave the region before getting the two sides to reach an agreement on ending the israeli military presence in Lebanon. The task was completed by U.S. envoy to the Middle East Philip Habib. He orginally began the mission and was assisted by Morris Draper, head of the U.S. delegation to the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations, which took more than 30 sittings, lasting more than 4 months because of the intransigence of the Israeli enemy and the reinforcing conditions put forward at that time, deliberately blocking all middle of the road solutions.

This intransigence was due to a number of factors, possibly the most important of which are the psychological aspects and the attempt to instill a spirit of despondency and boredom in the Lebanese negotiator to force him to accept these conditions as a price for the withdrawal of the invading forces.

The agreement was signed for the Lebanese side by the head of its delegation, Anton Fattal, and for the Israeli side by David Kimche, general secretary of the enemy Foreign Ministry and head of his delegation to the tripartite negotiations. For the American side it was signed by Morris Draper.

This agreement raised wide, at times differing and varied, Arab and international reaction in view of its clauses. News agencies and newspapers carried the text of the agreement and published its clauses, one of which reads: The withdrawal is to be completed within a period of 8-12 weeks from the date the agreement comes into force.

Another clause reads that after 3 months from the withdrawal of all Israeli forces from Lebanon, a committee for security arrangements is to carry out a comprehensive review of the adequacy of these arrangements. Yet, there remains some ambiguity surrounding some clauses of the agreement which, for example, did not contain any reference to the fate of the separatist Major Sa'd Haddad, whose forces have been holding .. border region between Lebanon and occupied Palestine for a number of years. However, there are reports that a special understanding has been reached about this subject, although it was not announced in the written words agreed by the two sides.

Support for Lebanon Affirmed

LD182309 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 May 83

[News and comment, prepared by Husayn al-Askari, presented by Abdullah ash-Shayi']

[Text] The news: The Kingdom has stressed its respect for the freedom and will of the Lebanese people, which they have expressed through their constiutional institutions. The Kingdom has also called on the Arab world to intensify efforts to confront current developments and establish true Arab solidarity.

Comment: The Kingdom's declaration of its stance toward current developments in the Arab arena and the connection between these developments and the Arab-Israeli conflict came on the usual level of attentiveness to the truth. His excellency the information minister said: Today, the Arab world is facing critical circumstances that demand intensifying efforts, closing ranks, and abandoning differences among the brothers so as to establish true solidarity to keep pace with the international efforts which are being exerted so as to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

Such a stance is nothing new; it is but a continuation of firm stances that stem from real concern for the Arabs' higher interest. This is because the Kingdom knows, appreciates, and is aware of the dimensions of the trust which the Arab nation places on Saudi opinion, believing in the Saudi leadership's sincerity and true determination when tackling the issues of the Arab man, first and foremost that of the Palestinian man.

Proceeding from this Arab trust of which the Kingdom — leadership and nation — is proud, the information minister said that the Kingdom is looking toward a clearer and positive stance by the United States enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their legitimate rights to return to their homeland and determine their own fate on their land. This cannot be accomplished except by exercising serious pressures on Israel to withdraw from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967. This will constitute a basic step toward the sought solution. Hence — from an awareness of all dimensions of the picture — comes the Kingdom's stress on the necessity that the Arabs face the present phase by intensifying their efforts and closing their ranks in order — God willing — to deal with the events inside the framework of the Arab choice; in other words, the Arabs should be the source of action and not deal with the reaction of others.

Press Comment on Gulf War, Israel, Other Issues

LD151441 Riyadh SPA in English 1220 GMT 15 May 83

[Press review]

[Text] Riyadh, May 15, SPA — Saudi newspapers today commented on HM King Fahd's visit to the eastern region, the GCC's fresh bid to resolve the Iran-Iraq war, the Israeli aggressive practises ever since its establishment 35 years ago and the importance of the call given by ICO-sponsored conference on science and technology.

Al-Bilad published in Jidda said HM King Fahd's visit to the eastern region was embodying cohesion between the leader and his people and that this visit and other similar ones by the Saudi monarch provided him good chances to be acquainted with his people's needs.

Al-Madinah published also in Jidda, said the visit was in itself a "reply to those who can speak about radicalism without interpreting their talks into action."

'Ukaz published in Jidda said the visit and the warm welcome accorded to HM King Fahd yesterday had reconfirmed the people's allegiance and loyalty for the Saudi monarch.

Al-Yawm published in Ad-Dammam said the king's visit was aimed at inspecting the region's inhabitants living conditions and follow up the work on development projects in the region.

The paper added that the visit was another form of democracy in the Kingdom which availed the chance for a face-to-face meeting between the people and their leaders.

Meanwhile *Ar-Riyadh* published here commented on the visit by the Kuwaiti and UAE foreign ministers to Iran and Iraq tomorrow in a new bid by the Gulf Cooperation Council to resolve the raging war between the two countries.

The paper said this was not the first or the last initiative by the Arab, Islamic and the world community to defuse tension in the Gulf region or drew [as received] attention to Iran's attempts to "obstruct all peace efforts."

It went on to say that those interested in peace should forget about past differences and make compromises in order to reach a solution and called on the Iranian regime to be aware of the Israeli attempts to damage the Islamic and Arab nations as it had done in Lebanon.

Another paper from Riyadh *Al-Jazirah* led with the Israeli aggressive practises ever since its establishment 35 years ago and the terror and threat it was posing to the region's states.

The paper said had launched five wars on the Arab nation and turned the region in to the most tense and volatile area in the world.

These aggressive wars have proved that Israel will never accept the idea of coexistence and never abide by international charters or norms," [quotation mark as received] it added.

The paper appealed to the UN to "deter Israel and restore all Arab land usurped by this aggressive entity."

The Jidda-based *Arab News* said Israel ever since its formation had managed to displace the Palestinian people and reduce them to nonentity, conquored lands from three Arab countries under the prtext of security, conducted its own terror under the banner of legality.

It added that Israel had lacked basic essential ingredients namely regional if not worldwide acceptance and economic viability.

"The persistence of these two monumental problems shed great doubt on what Israel has accomplished during the past 35 years. Its borders are defacto boundaries, neither permanent nor legal and its economy lacks essential elements of vitality," the paper said.

Referring to the ICO-sponsored conference on science and technology which concluded its deliberations this week in Islamabad the Jidda-based *Saudi Gazette* said "no one can underestimate the importance of the call given by the conference."

"If the Muslim world wants to enjoy the fruits of freedom and exercise its political independence, it can not wait any more to attain a higher degree of expertise in modern technology. Self-reliance demands self-confidence," the paper added.

It said there was a paramount need to devise a panislamic policy if the Muslim nation desired to achieve tangible results in science and technology.

uf subsectUAE

President Receives Libyan Envoy, Al-Qadhdhafi Message
GF181520 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1055 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Al-'Ayn, 18 May (WAKH) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan has received a written message from Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on the current Arab developments and the relations between the two countries.

The message was delivered by Libyan Oil Secretary Dr Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur during his meeting with the president here today.

The meeting was attended by Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE petroleum and natural resources minister.

Shaykh Zayid reaffirmed the UAE's concern for the unity of the joint Arab nation and its support to any stance which the Arab nation agrees upon in order to solve its fateful issues.

UAE President To Visit Kingdom, Meet Fahd 21 May
GF181512 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan will pay a short visit to Saudi Arabia on Saturday, during which he will meet with King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia, within the framework of the consultation and exchange of views between the two leaders on the Gulf, Arab, and international issues.

Papers Condemn Lebanese-Israeli Agreement
GF181300 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0605 GMT 18 May 83

[Excerpts] Four local newspapers commented today on the agreement that was signed between Lebanon and Israel yesterday and focused on the consequent reactions to that agreement. These newspapers warned against results negative to Arab solidarity and against the state of collapse that threatens the unity of the Arab fold. The newspapers also warned against the risk of making quick individual decisions which might lead to a further Arab collapse.

The newspaper *Al-Ittihad* referred to the Syrian stand on the agreement which was illustrated by the utter rejection of that agreement and Syria's announcement that it will not withdraw from Lebanon "even if Lebanon requests it." The newspaper said: "the alphabets of politics and even public life dictate that the neighbor is more than anyone else affected by what takes place in his neighbor's house, whether such an effect is negative or positive, and consequently affects its acceptance or rejection."

Al-Ittihad added: "The agreement as everyone sees is the beginning of the way, but which way? Some parties prefer to have it hot by kindling the flames of war in the region, which is still exposed to dangers, and some others prefer to have a political and diplomatic calm providing that this would lead to settling the essential cause and giving the Palestinian people their right to self-determination and the establishment of their state even if it would be achieved eventually. But how and when? These questions arise today. So will tomorrow have the answers? Tomorrow is another day."

The newspaper *Al-Wahdah* said the three parties that have negotiated for the past 3 months "have intentionally ignored a fourth party, which was the most present and had the loudest voice. It is the Lebanese armed resistance who believed that what has been taken by force will only be restored by force. The invaders also should not be rewarded for their crimes by giving them a part of Lebanon as a gift on the plea that this would ensure and protect them from operations that might be carried out against the Zionist settlements in northern occupied Palestine."

The newspaper added: "Official Lebanon has ignored the national resistance because it considered it an extention of the Palestinian resistance, according to the accusatory decisions that were issued against everyone arrested during the heroic operations against the occupation forces in the Beirut suburbs."

***Al-Ittihad* Assails Weinberger Remarks on Syria**
GF190818 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0700 GMT 19 May 83

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 19 May (WAM) — *Al-Ittihad* today warned against a new Israeli aggression. In its editorial on the statements by U.S. officials supporting the enemy and directing warnings to Syria, the newspaper said these statements prove the unlimited U.S. commitment to the so-called "Israeli security."

Al-Ittihad said: U.S. President Reagan himself has issued warnings to Syria "for categorically rejecting the Lebanese-Israeli agreement," and his secretary of defense has completed the warnings by talking about what he called the Syrian threat to Israel and on lifting the ban on the fighter planes to Israel under the pretext of enabling it to defend itself, "as if Israel is the party against whom aggression has been committed and as if it did not occupy an Arab land in Palestine by using destructive U.S.

weapons and through the unconditional U.S. military, political and economic aid."

The newspaper said: The Arabs have learned from experience in the Arab-Zionist conflict that when Israel receives more arms, "this is an indication of a new round of aggression against the Arab peoples."

The newspaper saw in the statement by the U.S. secretary of defense "a blatant contradiction between what Washington daily announces on its pledge to establish peace in the region and its encouragement to Israel to continue to be arrogant and obstinate, to block the peace efforts, and to continue with the policy of aggressiveness through the use of U.S. arms to achieve its goals."

The U.S. secretary of defense's statement denying Syria's right to possess purely defensive weapons implies a clear warning of a new aggression, the newspaper concluded.

PDRY

SANA Reports Government Reiterates Support for Syria

JN161452 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1425 GMT 16 May 83

[Text] Damascus, 16 May (SANA) — The PDRY has expressed anxiety over the attempts to impose an Israeli-U.S. agreement on Lebanon and stressed the need to expel the Zionist occupiers from all Lebanese territory without preconditions.

A statement issued by the PDRY Embassy in Damascus said that this took place at a recent ordinary meeting of the PDRY Council of Ministers, which reviewed the situation in the Arab region, particularly the results of the joint Lebanese- Israeli-U.S. talks and the threats posed to the Lebanese people's national sovereignty, to Syria's security, and to that of the Arab nation.

The PDRY Council of Ministers reiterated the PDRY's support for Syria and for its heroic steadfastness and called on the fraternal Arab countries to provide all forms of brotherly assistance and effective solidarity to the Syrian and Lebanese people for the confrontation of the dimensions and objectives of the U.S.-Israeli moves which are hostile to our Arab nation.

The Council of Ministers praised the USSR's support for the Arab nation's struggle and particularly for the steadfastness of Syria and the Palestinian resistance and for Lebanon's right to maintain its sovereignty and independence.

YAR Military Committee Departs Aden 17 May

GF181836 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 17 May 83

[Excerpt] The YAR military committee led by Lieutenant Colonel 'Ali Muhammad Salah left Aden today after participating in the meetings of the first session of the PDRY-YAR Joint Military Committee.

In a predeparture statement to ANA, Lt Col 'Ali Muhammad Salah said that the Joint Military Committee concluded its meetings with a significant success, due to the continuous efforts and the valuable instructions of the political leaderships in the two parts of Yemen. He said that the views were similar on the issues which were discussed and approved as well as the issues on organizing the draft laws related to the functions of the two interior ministries, which will be approved during the next session. He expressed his gratitude for the extreme concern, total care, and the welcome which the members of the YAR committee received and the excellent preparations which enabled the total success of the military committee's session.

The members of the YAR committee were seen off by 'Abd al-Wasi' as-Sallam, deputy interior minister and head of the PDRY military committee, and the members of the PDRY committee.

YAR

President Addresses Council on Elections

GF181930 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 May 83

[Speech by YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to the extraordinary meeting of the Constitutent People's Assembly in San'a' 18 May — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. May the prayers and peace of God be upon His truthful and honest messenger. Brother chairman, and members of the Constituent People's Assembly. I am pleased on this historic day to meet with you. In glorification of the constitutional oath which I took to this council and in adherence to the constitutional legitimacy, I call you to an extraordinary session in order to place before your honorable assembly an historic responsibility.

I place before you the responsibility of the start of the procedures to nominate and elect a president for the republic. In accordance with the permanent constitution and on the basis of clause No 81 and the constitutional declaration of 14 May 1978, which defines the form and responsibilities of the presidency, I place before you the historic responsibility of choosing a president for the republic.

The duration of the elections, according to the permanent constitution, begins as of today's date, 18 May, until 17 July, a period of 60 days, during which measures for electing the president of the republic will begin. On this occasion, I request the brother chairman and members of the Constituent People's Assembly to practice their democratic right freely, democratically and free from any pressures to affect the progress of the elections.

Our only gain from the revolution is this great accomplishment, this wonderful accomplishment; namely, that the people practice their right to choose their rulers from among themselves without hegomony, pressure, influnce or any pressure on the people.

Brothers, I place before you this responsibility. I do not wish to talk about what was accomplished in the past. Let accomplishments speak for themselves. As for me, I shall adhere to the permanent constitution in order to practice my constitutional right with regard to completing legitimacy until a new president

is elected. You shall find me a sincere soldier dedicated to the revolution at all circumstances. [applause] You will also find me a dedicated soldier of the revolution for any national duty I am called upon to perform.

As for the nomination, I shall not nominate myself for the republic's presidency for another term. I leave it to the people to nominate and choose from among their ranks those whom they wish to nominate to be president of the republic. I wish you success and may the peace, mercy and blessings of God be upon you. [applause]

Council Supports Salih

GF181700 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] The YAR People's Constitutional Council during its extraordinary session today decided to call for nominations for the presidential election beginning from today until next Saturday. The council set next Sunday as a date for holding another extraordinary session during which the president of the republic will be elected.

During today's session the members of the council declared their support for the re-election of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, regarding him to be responsible for the current phase in Yemen's history. However, the Yemeni president wanted to give an opportunity to those who want to present themselves for elections according to the terms and principles of the Yemeni charter and constitution.

Commentary Applauds Salih Decision

GF181902 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 May 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] It was not strange nor surprising for Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the armed forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, to call on the Constituent People's Assembly to hold an extraordinary and urgent session and to attend it personally. Through his outstanding leadership with the great successes of democracy and with the great confidence of the people, he has been a leading force to construct the present state and strengthen the path of revolution. He declared his adherence to the constitutional oath and his extreme desire to abide by constitutional law, regarding it as the cornerstone of maintaining the real democracy that Yemen is currently experiencing.

The fact is that this was not strange or surprising because this is the nature of our leader and his democratic behavior since he was elected by the people in the most difficult circumstances which our country passed through during the revolution.

The democratic path that the president leader began with all seriousness and drive is a progressive path and is a democracy for the people and not over them. It is a democracy which grew in a legal and constitutional land 5 years ago and its green trees yielded the greatest fruits and national victories.

Libyan Envoy Arrives in San'a' With Message

GF190615 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Majid al-Qa'ud, Libyan secretary of atomic energy, arrived this afternoon on a visit to San'a', during which he will convey a message to Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the armed forces,and secretary general of the General People's Congress, from Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

In a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY, Al-Qa'ud lauded the stand by the YAR president, government, and people [words indistinct] the Palestinian cause.

He was received by Brother 'Ali 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Bahr, minister of state, chairman of the petroleum and mineral resources corporation, and member of the Standing Committee; the director of the Libyan People's Bureau in San'a'; and a representative for the department of protocol at the Foreign Ministry.

At-Tawrah Urges Iran To Heed Gulf Mediation

GF171900 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 May 83

[Excerpt] *At-Tawrah* today discussed the importance of Gulf mediation to stop the Iraqi-Iranian war, hoping that this last opportunity is viewed with common sense. The daily stated in its editorial that Gulf mediation is aimed at stopping the war between the two neighboring Muslim countries, Iraq and Iran. The two countries represent an important part in the Arab Islamic struggle against the real enemy,which aims to destroy the civilization of the Arab Islamic nation and exterminate completely the landmarks of this nation's heritage and the structure of their history. This is the racist Zionism which revealed its hostile behavior against everything that is not Zionist, whether it is a human being,a belief, or a tradition.

This mediation is a last chance for common sense to prevail to end the bloodshed and save Islamic humanity. We do not believe this time that the Iranian brothers will ignore this opportunity as before for a number of reasons, foremost of which is that this mediation is coming from a brother who has suffered from the continuation of this war and has been harmed by it, the most recent threat being the one concerning the Gulf.

Currently the Arab Islamic nation is passing a dangerous phase due to the imperialist Zionist attack, which requires the brother Iranians to prove the truth of their sympathy with the Palestinian cause and that they do what they say. This requires the Iranians only to be true to their beliefs and with their Islamic neighbors, to respond to the good efforts and peace endeavors and to agree to stop the war.

President Mubarak Visits Aircraft Plant 18 May

NC181933 Cairo MENA in English 1518 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Cairo, May 18 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak paid a surprise visit to the Hulwan aircraft plant, one of the plants of the Arab Industrialisation Authority, within the context of the president's visits to production sites.

The president first visited the workshop of the assembling of the "Alpha Jet" plane, the first military training plane to be locally manufactured in Egypt in collaboration with the French world-famous "Dassault" company.

President Mubarak reviewed the technical control operations of the assembling of the "Alpha Jet" plane. He instructed officials to increase the volume of industrialisation and speed up the production of locally manufactured spare parts of this plane, to match up-to-date world specifications.

This is the second visit by the president to the Hulwan aircraft plant. The first took place in November when the president took part in the celebration of the delivery of the first "Alpha Jet" plane, the final assembling of which took place in the plant with all relevant air and ground tests.

'Ali Urges Arab Forces' Withdrawal From Lebanon

NC181752 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1720 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Cairo, 18 May (MENA) — Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that Egypt hopes the Lebanese authorities will succeed in persuading the remaining Arab parties present in Lebanon to withdraw; otherwise, the alternative will be the continuation of the Israeli occupation of Lebanon.

During his meeting today with officers studying in the Police Officers Training Institute, 'Ali explained that the withdrawal from Lebanon can open the road for a new drive toward a just settlement of the Palestinian issue through negotiations in which the Palestinians, Jordan, and the other parties concerned will participate.

'Ali affirmed that Egypt supports negotiations among the parties concerned for settling the Palestinian issue on the basis of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's plan, which has a real chance to achieve peace in the region, since it comes from a superpower which is most able to influence the situation and the peace efforts.

'Ali reaffirmed that Egypt rejects international or regional polarization policies which serve only the superpowers' policies, indicating that this polarization is currently being manifested in the area through the stands of some Arab parties toward the withdrawal process from Lebanon.

'Ali affirmed that Egypt adheres to the policy of nonalignement between the two superpowers, explaining that while Egypt maintains friendly relations with the United States, it does not object to the establishment of normal relations with the Soviet Union on the basis of equality and non-intervention in domestic affairs.

The meeting was attended by Interior Minister Major General Hasan Abu Basha, Assistant Interior Minister Major General 'Abd al-Karim Darwish, and high-ranking police officers.

Akhbar Al-Yawm Urges Syria To Leave Lebanon

PM181004 Cairo Akhbar Al-Yawm in Arabic 14 May 83 p 8

[Ibrahim Sa'sah "Political Situation" column: "Please Go Home"]

[Excerpts] Lebanon has a right to recover its occupied land and the Lebanese people have a right to insist on the withdrawal of all foreign — Israeli and Syrian — forces from their country so that legality will be restored, the people will rule themselves and determine their own fate and future. Lebanon has had enough of sufferings, massacres, and wars in the past many years. It has had enough of lies and false promises which all proved incapable of saving it from its sufferings.

Nobody has the right to level any accusations against the Lebanese people, for these people have proved to be more Arab, more patriotic, and more committed than many of the Arab countries that do not tire of harping on their Arabism, patriotism, and commitment. More than once Lebanon agreed to fulfill its commitment, to participate in the Arab plans to liberate the Arab Land, and to save the Arab nation from the Israeli dangers surrounding it. But the result was catastrophic for Lebanon; its land was occupied, its legitimate government undermined, its economy destroyed, its towns and villages ruined, and its people massacred.

The Lebanese people could no longer tolerate any more as they saw their country the prey of foreign occupation which clearly came in order to stay forever. With commendable courage Lebanon decided to solve its problem by itself despite those who caused the ruination of the country and almost erased it from the Middle East map. It has become clear to the whole world that nobody cares for Lebanon other than the Lebanese themselves and nobody wants to save Lebanon from the stigma of Israeli occupation because they were afraid to come under occupation themselves. Thus the Lebanese Government decided to take this responsibility upon itself after the other have avoided it for many years.

The Lebanese negotiator succeeded in reaching the recent agreement under which Israel agreed to withdraw its forces from Lebanon on condition that Syria will also withdraw. What is astonishing is that the Syrian regime is rejecting this agreement and is condemning it. It is as if the Lebanese people are requested to remain under foreign occupation forever so that the occupier may do as he likes. Lebanon was expected to remain without a legitimate government, sovereignty, or peace so that it will vanish as a state and a people. More than once the Damascus rulers proclaimed that the Syrians came to Lebanon at the Lebanese Government's request and that they are prepared to withdraw as soon as this government asks them to do so. Lebanon — both people and government — has declared its desire for the evacuation of all the foreign forces from its territory. What more are the Syrians waiting for?

Egyptian Airline Resumes Flights to Beirut
LD181419 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1331 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Beirut — The first Egyptair aircraft to resume flights to Beirut arrived this morning at Beirut airport after a long suspension dating back to October 1975 resulting from the civil war in Lebanon. Lebanese sources mentioned that the company will undertake three flights a week, for the time being, and will increase them to five a week later on.

The aircraft, a Boeing 737, left the airport after a 1-hour stopover.

Communique Reports 17-18 Military Operations

JN181622 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1540 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 18 May (INA) — During recent military operations, the Iraqi Armed Forces killed three Iranians and destroyed one tank, four observation posts, one infantry position, and one stockpile of ammunition.

This was mentioned in Communique No 1,095 issued here this evening. The communique added that one Iranian soldier sought refuge with Iraqi units in the central sector and that one Iranian tank, left behind by the enemy during previous battles, was evacuated to the rear. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,095 issued by the Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our victorious Armed Forces continue their valiant activities in the operational theaters against the forces of the rancorous and charlatan clique that is ruling Iran. The results of the activities yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Several enemy elements were sighted opposite one of our forward units' positions in the central sector of the battlefield. Our forces struck them with their weapons, killing two and destroying one hardware stockpile and two observation posts. Yesterday evening, one Iranian soldier sought refuge with our units in the same sector and was evacuated to the rear.

2. One tank, one infantry position, and two observation posts were destroyed in the Maysan sector and one tank, left behind by the enemy during previous battles, was evacuated to the rear by our units in the same sector.

3. One was killed east of Basra.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 May 1983

GCC Official Comments on Visit to Iraq

GF181610 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1310 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 18 May (WAKH) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has described his meeting with President Saddam Husayn today as very good.

In an exclusive statement to the WAKH correspondent in Baghdad, Shaykh Sabah said that he is very pleased with the meeting and that the results were very good, God willing. He indicated that his talks with Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, dealt with the problem of the war and the efforts to put an end to it as well as his wishes that these efforts will accomplish fruitful results that will benefit the Arab nation and the region's states.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad and UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah left for Riyadh this afternoon to participate in the meetings of the GCC ministerial council which is supposed to be held there later today. The two ministers arrived in Baghdad yesterday evening to visit Tehran and Baghdad in order to put an end to the war that is about to enter its third year, and to stop the leakage of oil from the Iranian Nowruz field in the Gulf waters.

GCC Officials Depart

JN181453 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1310 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 18 May (INA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Rashid 'Abdallah an-Nu'aymi, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, left Baghdad this afternoon following a short visit to Iraq.

They were seen off by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; the Kuwaiti charge d'affaires; the UAE ambassador in Baghdad; and the chief of protocol in the Foreign Ministry.

President Receives Sudanese, Nigerian Message

JN181449 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 18 May (INA) — President Saddam Husayn today received messages from Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and Nigerian President Alhaji Shehu Shagari.

'Issat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council vice chairman, received SSU Deputy Chairman Dr 'Abd al-Hamid Salih, who conveyed an oral message to President Saddam Husayn from Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri.

'Issat Ibrahim expressed Iraq's thanks and appreciation for Sudan's stand toward the Iranian regime's aggression. Dr Salih reiterated the support of Sudan's people and government for Iraq, which is standing fast in the face of this aggression.

During the meeting, attended by General Ba Bakr 'Abd ar-Rahim, head of the Security and Defense Committee in the SSU, and the Sudanese ambassador in Baghdad, the two sides discussed relations between the two fraternal countries and means to promote them in the various spheres.

'Issat Ibrahim also received Muhammad Bello Kirifi, Nigerian minister of state for foreign affairs, with a message for President Saddam Husayn from Nigerian President Alhaji Shehu Shagari. The message deals with the promotion of bilateral relations. The Nigerian minister expressed his country's solidarity with Iraq and appreciation of Iraq's efforts to seek a resolution to the Iraq-Iran conflict through peaceful means.

During the meeting, attended by the Nigerian ambassador in Baghdad, the two sides reviewed bilateral relations and means to promote them.

President Receives Moroccan Envoy 18 May
JN181332 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1105 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 18 May (INA) — President Saddam Husayn recieved a written message from his brother His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco. The message dealt with the means to strengthen relations between the two fraternal countries and reinforce Arab solidarity.

The message was delivered to President Saddam Husayn by Dey Ould Sidi Baba, the Moroccan monarch's envoy and speaker of the Moroccan Chamber of Deputies, when he was received by the president this afternoon. The meeting was attended by Na'im Haddad, speaker of the National Assembly; Khalid 'Abd al-Mun'im, director of the presidential office; and the Moroccan ambassador in Baghdad.

Daily on U.S. Call for Palestinian Withdrawal
JN191040 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 19 May 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Where Should the Palestinian Go?" *Ad-Dustur says: The day before yesterday, Lebanon and Israel* signed what has become known as the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. The United States also signed this agreement as a witness. What concerns us here is that the agreement stipulates the withdrawal of the Israelis, the Syrians, and the Palestinians from Lebanon. Since the Syrian troops stationed in the Lebanese territories know where to withdraw, and since the Israeli aggressive forces also know where to go, the question that we would like to pose to the world community in general, and the United States and Israel in particular, is: Where should the Palestinians withdraw to?

Ad-Dustur adds: All efforts to tackle issues on the basis of their results are only bound to lead to more complications, and, all attempts to answer only marginal questions will not produce the comprehensive solution and the right answer to the principal question. Like Syrian presence, Palestinian presence in Lebanon is the result of circumstances created by Israel through its aggressive policies and insistence on its continued occupation of Arab territory.

Ad-Dustur adds: Thus, the U.S. wish, as expressed by the official White House and State Department spokesmen, will remain as another attempt to tackle the Middle East problem from its results rather than from its causes and roots. Larry Speaks and John Hughes have annnounced that the United States still wishes to hold talks with Syria. Even if it is assumed that the talks were held, and results acceptable to both sides were achieved, nothing would have changed because the Palestine question is the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Middle East crisis.

Ad-Dustur concludes: Any settlement of the crisis that is incomplete, and any solutions that are not binding to all parties, will only be a postponement of a minor conflagration. They will not prevent a total collapse. The stability of the region is subject to justice for all its countries and people. Those who are asking the Palestinians to withdraw from Lebanon must first bravely say that the Palestinians should withdraw to their occupied land, which is threatened by Judaization. It is the responsibility of the United States to realize this fact and to act accordingly. What it believes to be an achievement of sucesses is only a further complication of the crisis and more wasted opportunities.

***Ar-Ra'y* on U.S., Israeli 'Secret Document'**
JN191110 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 19 May 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The U.S.-Israeli Document," *Ar-Ra'y says: U.S. and Israeli sources yesterday revealed that* a document was signed by Israel and the United States under which the United States gives Israel the right to delay its withdrawal from Lebanon until the Syrian and Palestinian forces withdraw from Al-Biqa'. The United States has also given Israel the right to carry out retaliatory operations inside Lebanese territory if Israel was subjected to attacks from there. Obviously, these two rights were not mentioned in the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, whose text and appendices were published. Thus, this secret document by the U.S. and Israeli sides has come as an appendix to the agreement without bearing the signature of the Lebanese side. The document has thus created a new pattern for agreements. It is not secret that this document is of the Balfour Declaration type, whereby a right is given by a party that does not possess it to a party that is not entitled to it.

Ar-Ra'y adds: The U.S.-Israeli document, in its content and purport, is a negative factor and an obstacle on the path toward resolving the Lebanese problem. It is also a serious precedent, giving the U.S. role a hegemonic nature in the region. Attention must be drawn to the fact that the document has two aims:

1.The creation of an obstacle to delay resolving the Lebanese problem and holding the other Arab sides responsible for any delay or failure in resolving this problem. Thus, the United States and Israel would absolve themselves of all responsibility, although the obstacle was created by the United States and Israel themselves.

2. If this document were to find someone who would accept it, then it would have achieved its second objective; namely, preparing the Arab mouth to swallow the knife. It would also create a precedent which Israel and the United States could use in the future.

Ar-Ra'y concludes: In view of this, we can say that the U.S.-Israeli document is a time-bomb that is set to torpedo the possibilities of peace and stability in the region and to remind the Arabs that the Balfour method is the one preferred by the U.S. Administration.

***Jordan Times* on Reagan's, Weinberger's Remarks**
JN190936 Amman Jordan Times in English 19 May 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Gee Whiz Politics"] [Text] The presence of Soviet anti-aircraft missiles and troops in Syria is looming ever larger as a cause for further tension in the Middle East, and a focal point of American-Soviet confrontation. The remarks on the Soviet presence in Syria that were made earlier this week by the American President and his secretary of defense remind us how the American leadership can put all the rules of logic aside when the status of Israel is concerned. Mr Reagan and Mr Weinberger have both said that the American embargo on selling 75 new F-16 fighter-bombers to Israel should be lifted now because of the presence of the Soviet weaponry and troops in Syria. President Reagan said that he "did not see what reason the Soviets have" to be in Syria.

Both of these grown men seem to forget that the Soviet presence in Syria or other Arab states is directly proportional to the level of American military and political aid to Israel. It is regrettable that the two superpowers use local conflicts to increase their presence and importance in difference regions of the world. But

it is even more regrettable that one of the two superpowers should then play dumb by saying, as Mr Reagan did this week, that, gee whiz, folks, the other superpower should not be in the Middle East and we don't know what they are doing here. This is either stupidity or hypocrisy, or a combination of the two.

The Soviets seem to be increasing their role in Syria because, as Mr Reagan may have forgotten, last year Israel used American arms and money to invade Lebanon, destroy great parts of it and occupy it. We remember — even if Mr Reagan prefers to forget — that during the invasion of June 1982, Mr Reagan himself said in a press conference that he understood why Israel had to go into Lebanon and he thought it was more or less OK with him as long as the Israeli army did not go too far north in Lebanon. Why do the Syrians or other Arabs ask for Soviet help in such circumstances? Because the presence of people such as Mr Reagan in the Israeli camp make it imperative for some Arabs to seek Soviet help as a counterforce to the American support for Israel. We still think all of this is regrettable. But it shouldn't be hard to understand why it happens. Even for Mr Reagan.

Press, Radio View Interior Ministry Statement

Ad-Dustur on Bridge Measures

JN181119 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 18 May 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Jordanian Confrontation of the Policy of Settlement and Eviction," *Ad-Dustur* says: The statement, issued yesterday by the Ministry of Interior, has reiterated the national and pan-Arab concept of the bridge crossing policy between the two banks [east and West Banks of Jordan]. The bridges, as Jordan as always believed, are a life line and a means of steadfastness between Jordan, the West Bank, and Gaza. If Israel wants, through its settlement policy, to turn the bridges into a path to the unknown, toward vagrancy, and extermination from the homeland, Jordan's awareness of this fact continues to place obstacles and barriers between this policy and its fulfillment.

The Israeli settlement policy seeks to achieve two interlinked objectives: namely, seizing the occupied territory and emptying it of its inhabitants, then declaring the legal annexation of this territory. In light of this policy, Israel has used terrorist, economic, social, and cultural practices whose success will lead to the achievement of this policy's objectives.

Ad-Dustur adds: Many people in the Arab homeland and the world do not realize the reality of what is taking place in the occupied territory, and consequently, they do not realize the dangers of the Israeli settlement policy — whether the dangers are against Jordan or the Palestinian territory and whether against the Jordanian people or the occupied territories' inhabitants. The outcome, in fact, will not be confined to the two banks or to their people, but will go beyond that to affect the Arabism of the land and deprive the Arab-Israeli conflict of its important and serious essence.

Hence, the Jordanian measures mentioned in the Interior Ministry's statement, not only constitute organized control of movement between the bridges, but also — and this is more important — an operation obstructing the settlement policy with the utmost in sincere Jordanian effort. It is against the Jordanian, Palestinian, and pan-Arab interest to provide Israel, under any circumstances, the opportunity to empty the occupied territory of its inhabitants. The national and pan-Arab interests dicate, in the first place, placing all possible and available obstacles to this eviction operation, and consequently, to the settlement policy.

Ad-Dustur concludes: We repeat that the Interior Ministry's statement has affirmed that the clear motive behind any Jordanian measures, and the response and understanding of the kinfolk in the West Bank and Gaza, will guarantee the success of shouldering the national and pan-Arab responsibility, despite the Israeli attempts to distort the Jordanian concern and despite the Israeli reactions Jordan expects. The determination to proceed with this duty is absolutely irrevocable, regardless of the pressures, threats, or attempts to contain and remove every obstacle to the dangerous Israeli settlement policy.

Radio Explains Measures

JN181933 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 May 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Jordan has become aware, before anyone else and more thananyone else, of the gravity of Israel's schemes and its current and future objectives. Proceeding from this awareness, Jordan has continued to emphasize and consolidate the relationship between the two peoples in Jordan and in the occupied Arab territories.

Though Jordan has spared no efforts to liberate the kinfolk and the land, its knowledge of the gravity of the Israeli schemes, and more specifically, of the settlement scheme, has been behind all if its actions or measures to entrench the kinfolk in their occupied territory and to prevent Israel from forcing them into a diaspora.

The Interior Ministry statement yesterday, which contained two important decisions, shows Jordan's insistence on obstructing Israeli settlement plans, particularly the Israeli measures to empty the West Bank and Gaza Strip of their Palestinian inhabitants. The least that can be said about the Interior Ministry statement, and the two important decisions it contains, is that this statement is in line with [Jordan's] policy — a courageous shouldering of national responsibility and a tangible reaffirmation of pan-Arab commitment, from which we will not retreat, regardless of pressures and sacrifices.

Everyone knows that Israel has sought to deceive the world with a package of lies, the most prominent of which is that Palestine is a land without a people and that the Jews are a people without a land. The logical result of this claim is that those who are deceived believe that the Israeli occupation is legitimate, support it, and even defend it.

The Israeli settlement plan seeks to transform this great lie into reality and accepted fact. The establishment of hundreds of settlements, the expulsion of the Palestinian people from their land, and the influx of thousands of immigrants to these settlements will achieve the final objective of Zionism; the Judaization of all Palestine followed by schemes for a greater expansion, whose limits are boundless in the view of Zionist extremism and chauvinism.

Jordan's position since 1967 has been clear and decisive, pursuing two parallel lines. The first deals with bolstering the kinfolk's steadfastness on their land through various means and forms. The second deals with breaching any gap Israel exploits to force the kinfolk into diaspora. Israel has used all its political, economic, cultural, and psychological means and efforts to force the Palestinians to choose this course.

We must point out here that Israel's failure until now to achieve this objective is because Jordan has always taken care to reaffirm that the steadfastness of the kinfolk is equal in importance to liberation. The kinfolk's understanding of and response to Jordanian policy in this respect have prevented Israel from exploiting the Jordanian national and pan-Arab stand in a malignant manner that serves the settlement program and the policy of Judaization.

The most important issue is that the kinfolk's steadfastness, and insistence on remaining in their homeland in spite of all kinds of daily suffering, will remain the strong bastion obstructing the settlement program.

This will prevent Israel from achieving a success that could cause harm that would reach beyond theborders of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and Jordan's borders to encompass the entire existence of this nation and its future, and could lessen the support of the world, which stresses the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and the need to settle the Middle East crisis and its core, the Palestinian cause, in a just manner.

PRC Delegation Leaves After 5-Day Visit

JN181510 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] The Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference [CPPCC] delegation left Amman today after a 5-day visit to Jordan. While in Jordan, the delegation met with Prime Minister Mudar Badran and held talks with the president of the Senate and the speaker of the National Consultative Council [NCC] on ways of reinforcing the cooperation between the two countries. The delegation also visited the cultural and historical sites in Jordan.

Cheng Zihua, vice chairman of the CPPCC National Committee, and head of the delegation, described the visit as successful and fruitful. He expressed the hope that visits between Chinese and Jordanian officials will take place.

Seeing the delegation off were: NCC Speaker Sulayman 'Arar; a number of NCC members; and the Chinese ambassador in Amman.

Al-Jumayyil, Al-Wazzan Brief Cabinet 18 May
NC182017 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1906 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Our correspondent in the Republican Palace, Joe Sa'adah, is sending us this dispatch:

[Begin recording] The Cabinet meeting ended this evening and the president of the republic, the prime minister, and the foreign minister went to meet with U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib, who arrived at the palace at 2000 accompanied by Ambassador Morris Draper, the U.S. ambassador in Beirut, and a number of the U.S. negotiating team. At the end of the Cabinet meeting, the Cabinet's acting Secretary General Shafiq Munayminah read an official statement.

President al-Jumayyil briefed the Cabinet members on the contacts, positions, and reactions that preceded, accompanied, and followed the signing of the agreement on the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon by the delegations representing Lebanon, the United States, and Israel. President al-Jumayyil said the signing of the agreement is an exceptional step and a turning point in Lebanon's history that was imposed by a united Lebanese stand and by Lebanon's interest in liberating its territory and regaining sovereignty of the Lebanese homeland and unity of its soil.

President al-Jumayyil expressed satisfaction with the contacts he held with their majesties, excellencies, and highnesses, the leaders of the fraternal Arab countries. He noted that these contacts emphasized the understanding the Lebanese Government is receiving and strengthened Lebanon's confidence in the fraternal ties with the Arab countries and its conviction of the need for promoting Arab unanimity behind the government's march toward saving the homeland and regaining sovereignty. President al-Jumayyil pointed out that this stand strengthens Lebanese faith in the importance of Arab solidarity as an expression of loyalty for the great sacrifices Lebanon and the Lebanese people offered for the Arab issues and concerns .

President al-Jumayyil extended a greeting of appreciation and esteem to the united and steadfast patriotic stand expressed by the Lebanese establishments, forces, personalities, and bodies of the various creeds, areas, trends, and responsibilities. He noted that the Chamber of Deputies' stand was an expression of the harmony of the Lebanese will. He thanked the Chamber of Deputies speaker and members for their firm stand, which expresses their loyalty to the legitimate government, their responsibility for safeguarding the constitution, and determination to liberate the homeland and achieve sovereignty. In addition, President al-Jumayyil praised the government's solidarity and firmness in tackling this historic national achievement. He expressed his special appreciation toward Prime Minister al-Wazzan and the Cabinet members for adopting an honorable national stand stemming from Lebanon's supreme interests and the aspirations of all the Lebanese people for a secure and prosperous future.

Referring to the reactions to the agreement inside and outside Lebanon, President al-Jumayyil said he respects the views, remarks, and previous stands that were expressed. He said he appreciates the various private and general circumstances of those whoexpressed their views. He promised the government will take all this into consideration in the forthcoming implementation process and in the contacts he intends to hold in the future with the parties concerned to ensure the restoration of sovereignty throughout Lebanon.

His excellency the president further said this agreement is the beginning and not the end. He stressed the government's position regarding in depth discussions with fraternal Syria of all issues of common concern in order to strengthen bilateral relations and preserve their supreme interests. He affirmed that the agreement will not weaken Lebanon's position in the Arab family; on the contrary, it will correct and strengthen Lebanon's position in the Arab family. He said departure from the Arab League is a defection from the spirit of Arab fraternity and chivalry, disavowal of the common values, and recognition of Lebanon's deviation toward occupation, division and incompetence. Negotiations were the only available and useful means to us to achieve the great national Lebanese and Arab aims.

President al-Jumayyil praised the competence, wisdom, and courage with which the Lebanese negotiating team steered the negotiations and the concomitant adherence to the principles and bases to which the team abided, despite the difficult and complicated circumstances that accompanied these negotiations. He put on record a distinguished appreciation for the effective contribution made by the U.S. side which participated in the negotiations, by the contacts on all levels and by the U.S. president's continued wise and positive guidance to help and save Lebanon.

President al-Jumayyil hoped that the agreement will receive the continued support it deserves in Lebanon, the Arab world, and the whole world during the implementation stage so Lebanon will be the great winner of this agreement when it liberates its land and regains its sovereignty and pride.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan spoke, saying: The agreement was not an objective itself but the only means remaining before Lebanon to end the Israeli occupation and restore Lebanese sovereignty over all Lebanese territory. If Lebanon showed great concern to consult on the local, Arab, and international levels, it was because it realized the dangers and dimensions of the stage in all spheres and wanted to break the impasse with the least possible damage and without abandoning principles which it has long advocated, be they sovereignty, to which it adheres, national dignity, on which it does not compromise, or its relations with the Arab world, to which it belongs and to which it insists on fulfilling its commitments, including the joint Arab defense commitment.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: While welcoming every objective criticism, we say that the tendency by some people to burden the clauses of the agreement with interpretations, to which Lebanon does not subscribe and which are not in harmony with reality or with the Lebanese interpretation, is harmful to the Lebanese and Arab interests. These interests remained the concern of the Lebanese negotiator, who in fact was negotiating on behalf of Lebanon and the Arab interests, including the interests of sister Syria.

The Lebanese Government is fully aware of these interests on all levels. These interests were mentioned carefully in the Cabinet statement, especially the distinctive relations with Syria. We will inevitably prove this at the appropriate time, and perhaps this will be soon.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan added: The U.S. participation in this agreement is an option within the option of negotiation and does not constitute an alignment of Lebanon's policy. The participation of his excellency the president in person in the New Delhi conference is a proof of adherence to the nonaligned principles, and he expressed this in his speech to the conference.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: It remains for us to observe an important matter, which is that there is another issue — the issue of the Palestinian people, who are still staying outside their land and a large section of whom are living in Lebanon. A just solution to the Palestinian issue must be found. At the conclusion of the talks with U.S. Secretary of State Shultz, I told him that the peace which we will establish in Lebanon without solving the Palestinian people's issue is incomplete, and there must be a lasting and just solution of this issue if we want complete peace. Shultz was convinced of this fact.

This was the official information which was distributed by the Cabinet's acting secretary general. It remains to say that no decisions were issued by the Cabinet because it met without an agenda and solely to discuss the general situation. [end recording]

Al-Jumayyil, Sham'un Remarks After Front Meeting
NC181414 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] The Lebanese Front focused its discussion today on two subjects: The security in the mountain and the post-agreement stage.

Regarding the situation in the mountain, [former] President Camille Sham'un said that efforts are being exerted to maintain calm and restore normal life. Regarding the agreement, he said that Lebanon will implement the agreement to the letter, and it expects Israel to abide by the provisions of the agreement in letter and spirit.

Sham'un added: What remains is to deal with the Syrian position. What is required of the Syrian officials is to understand Lebanon's situation and position and to appreciate their Arab and international responsibilites and duties. He said: Through the agreement Lebanon will be able to liberate its land from Israeli occupation, while the Golan remains under such occupation. Syria was was forced in 1974 to sign the disengagement agreement with Israel.

Sham'un regarded the withdrawal of the Libyan ambassador from Lebanon as an unjustified step.

Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said: It seems clear that Syria and some Arab states do not want Lebanon liberated, as we can deduce from the actions of Syria, the Palestinians, and their Iranian allies who — after pledging that they would not be a problem or an obstacle in the face of withdrawal — violated their pledge. The brothers and friends now are the problem and obstacle after the Israeli problem has almost ended.

The Phalangist party leader said: In my opinion, the agreement on the withdrawal constitutes the greatest victory for the Arabs because Lebanon is the only country in the Arab League whose land was occupied and was able to bring about Israel's withdrawal in principle. There is no doubt that the definite victory in this context is the Lebanese national unity, which was manifested and showed the Lebanese people's patriotism.

The Phalangist party leader pointed out that the signing of the agreement took place with U.S. guarantee. He said: If the Soviet Union wants to help us, we shall be thankful to it.

Envoys Brief al-Jumayyil on Arab Support
NC181915 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil's envoys, Ministers al-Bisat and Halawi, have conveyed to President al-Jumayyil, in the presence of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and Foreign Minister Salim, the support and backing they received during their Arab tours. Ministers al-Bisat and Halawi submitted two detailed reports on the results of their tours and on the meeting Ambassador Ibrahim Kharma held in Tunis with senior Fatah official Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas].

Both ministers affirmed that their missions were successful, that the Arab officials showed understanding of Lebanon's stand on the negotiations, and that some of these officials refused to discuss the details of the agreement, because they trust the Lebanese Government and what it does and consider that the question concerns Lebanon alone.

A prominent diplomatic source has pointed out that the Arab leaders' views concur that Lebanon is more aware of its affairs than others and that they support anything on which the Lebanese people concur. This source said the atmosphere of the meetings the ministers held was rational and practical, and they did not feel that anything marred the talks. This source considered this observation as extremely important, because it means the Arab world does not want to lose opportunities and then accept them after 10 years. Both ministers also noticed that the Arab countries insisted that Lebanon's relations remain good with Syria and that Lebanon must try to find possible avenues so useful talks will be held with Syria as quickly as possible. This source commented on this result by saying that it is in keeping with the Lebanese stance and desire to quickly hold contacts at the highest levels with Damascus.

Al-Jumayyil, Al-Wazzan, Salim Receive French Envoy
NC181909 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] President al-Jumayyil today received France'sFrancois de Grossouvre and reviewed the situation within the framework of the mission assigned him by President Mitterrand.

Within the context of his contacts with Lebanese officials, De Grossouvre met with Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim. He met earlier with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan in the Government Palace and conveyed to him an invitation from French Premier Pierre Mauroy to visit France. Al-Wazzan said he has gratefully accepted the invitation and that the date of the visit will be set in light of developments.

During the meeting between Al-Wazzan and the French envoy, in the presence of French Ambassador Paul Marc Henry, they reviewed the situation in Lebanon and the region in light of the signing of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, the post-signing stage, and the French role in helping Lebanon liberate its territory from all non-Lebanese forces. Following the meeting, the French Envoy said he conveyed an invitation from the French premier to Al-Wazzan to visit France and that he also conveyed to him a message, whose content he cannot divulge.

Arab League Envoy Leaves, Makes Statement
NC181358 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Hammad as-Sid, the personal representative of the Arab League secretary general, left Beirut this morning for Tunis after a series of meetings with senior Lebanese officials.

In Beirut Airport, As-Sid said:

[Begin recording] I am returning to Tunis after a visit I made as the envoy of the Arab League secretary general to follow up the developments in the situation, which are fateful not only to Lebanon and the area, but also to the whole Arab world. The Arab League Secretariat General has been interested in the Lebanese situation. As an organization it has never abandoned its pan-Arab commitments and its attachment to dear Lebanon — state, people, and territory enjoying full sovereignty. The Secretariat General has been present in the Lebanese arena since the Tunis summit, be it by its effective participation, in as far as possible, in the Arab committees, or by successive visits during the most difficult times through which the Lebanese have passed. Such visits were made personally by the secretary general in the wake of the Israeli incursion last June, and I have been maintaining these visits almost every month since last August because the secretary general is anxious to follow up the developments in this historical phase. I will brief the secretary general on the outcome of my talks with Lebanese officials so as to complement what he might have been acquainted with following Minister al-Bisat's and the Lebanese delegation's visit. This will enable the secretary general to adopt a unified Arab stance to maintain Arab unanimity of which we are in dire need now more than at any time before. [end recording]

Talks With Syria Reportedly To Start 'Next Week'
NC181715 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1645 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Unofficial reports say the Lebanese-Syrian negotiations will start next week and that there are U.S.-Soviet contacts far from the limelight, as well as Syrian-Saudi contacts within the framework of Saudi efforts to safeguard Arab solidarity.

Salim Confers With Saudi Official on Agreement
NC181731 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim today met with Saudi Charge d'Affaires in Lebanon Abu Bakr Rafi'. Reports on the meeting say Minister Salim resumed with the Saudi official the continual Lebanese-Saudi talks which have followed the signing of the agreement. The reports say the talks dealt with the role Saudi Arabia can play in this respect over the next 2 weeks.

Libya Notified of Recall of Ambassadors
NC181259 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] The Foreign Ministry last night recalled to Beirut Lebanese Ambassador to the Libyan Jamahiriyah Nizar Farhat.

The Foreign Ministry today summoned 'Ab al-Qadir Ghuqah, member of the Libyan Brotherhood Bureau in Beirut. He was received by Foreign Ministry Secretary General Fu'ad at-Turk, who asked him to inform his government that Salih ad-Duruqi, secretary of the People's Committee at the Brotherhood Bureau, should not return to Beirut.

Following the meeting, Ghuqah explained that the secretary general told him that Ad-Duruqi should not return to Beirut and that the matter is connected with the recall of the ambassadors of the two countries.

Ghuqah said that a Libyan envoy was coming to Beirut to convey a specific view on the agreement, but that he turned back to Tripoli because the time was no longer appropriate for him to visit.

The Lebanese ambassador in Tripoli is expected to arrive in Beirut this afternoon.

Zgharta Memorandum to Government 14 May
NC181218 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 18 May 83

["Text" of memorandum addressed to Lebanese Government dated 14 May 1983; issued following meeting in Zgharta — read by announcer]

[Text] Memorandum to the Government of Lebanon. In view of the serious and accelerating developments and their consequences, dimensions, and interactions on all levels of our national life — political, security, economic, and cultural — as embodied in the draft agreement with the Israeli enemy, and in view of all of these dangers we believe that the historic responsibility demands that we make our position clear as of now in light of the repercussions which we see and to which we must draw the attention of the Lebanese officials and the Lebanese, Arab, and international public opinion in the hope that a position may be

reached to safeguard Lebanon's sovereignty, the unity of its sons, Lebanon's role, and Lebanon's relations with its Arab environment.

The principles to which we adhere are the same principles which were included in more than one speech by his Excellency President Amin Al-Jumayyil. From among these, we mention the oath-taking speech on 23 Spetember 1982, the Independence Day speech on 22 November 1982, the 1983 New Year message to the Lebanese, the speech to the press association on 23 April 1983, and the speech to the new graduate officers on 6 May 1983. The most specific remarks were contained in the New Delhi speech on 10 March 1983. This speech included specific principles for negotiations which were then also termed redlines. They are the following: First, maintaining national accord and abiding by stands stemming from the will of the Lebanese people. Second, not relinquishing Lebanese sovereignty, not making any concession to anyone, and not allowing any foreign military presence on Lebanese territory. Third, not relinquishing Lebanon's Arab credibility and its affiliation to its family so it can continue to play its creative role.

With regard to the first principle, we ask: Does not the Zgharta meeting of whoever was able to attend express a fact, which is that the Lebanese are divided about the draft agreement, and that the majority of Lebanese oppose it? Hence we hope that the government will abide by the first principle and not do what is contrary to this principle and harm national accord.

With regard to the nonrelinquishment of Lebanese sovereignty, does not the agreement, and its articles, contain measures and arrangements that give the enemy advantages on land, at sea, and in the air to maintain a foreign military presence on Lebanese territory under legal provisions? Does not all this refute what is stated in the second principle?

On the question of the relinquishment of Lebanon's Arab credibility and its affiliation to its family, it is sufficient to register the positions of the fraternal Arab states which have so far rejected the draft agreement in order to understand the dangers to Lebanon's Arab relations and its affiliation and basic interests and fate. It is sufficient to ask about the ninth article in the draft agreement, which gives this inauspicious agreement with the enemy preference over all other treaties, agreements, laws and regulations concluded by Lebanon in the past. From this it is possible to imagine the extent of the danger inherent in Lebanon's ultimate isolation from its environment, nation and family.

As for the creative role mentioned in the presidential principles, what would remain of it when Lebanon is separated from its environs and enclosed within the circle of Israeli hegemony. This was most appropriately expressed by our foreign minister when he said: Of what benefit would it be for Lebanon to open a door to Israel and close 22 doors.

All this prompts us to go back to the nature of the draft, which appears in reality to be a separate peace treaty under a different cloak. We want to emphasize here the losses that have afflicted Lebanon, especially in the economic and financial domains. Everybody has begun to feel the gravity and the consequences of these losses which are threatening the safety of our conditions and our society. All the more serious is the clause which gives Israel an opportunity after 6 months to impose more normalization and economic gains.

We also believe that as a result of this agreement, negotiated under occupation, Lebanon will definitely be plunged into the circle of Israeli ambitions and influence in the political, security, economic, social, and cultural domains. This will consequently destroy Lebanon's role and message in its environs and and in the world. In our view, the draft is part of the continuing conspiracy aimed at partition and the settlement. This is what worries us most of all because it means the complete destruction of the entity and the homeland.

It is on this basis that we think of the fighting and the provocations taking place in the mountain, in the south, in the Al-Biqa', in the north, and in other areas in Lebanon in successive attempts to impose the one-party authority and, likewise, the measures aimed at the imposition of factional party domination on the state's institutions — a matter that contradicts the pledge made in the oath-taking speech to keep the government above party and community conflicts.

Ultimately, all this will be in accordance with Israel's plan, and will serve its objectives. He is wrong who thinks that this will achieve the aims of those who want to subjugate Lebanon and its government to factional party domination because Lebanon's progress and development lie in the preservation of democracy, the liberties, and the formula of coexistence among Lebanon's various factions and communities.

After all this, we find in Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509 the right basis for the unconditional liberation of Lebanon. In addition to this, Lebanon's basic might lies in the unity of its people — the unity for which we have often called as a means to save the country from the plot that is being concocted [word indistinct]. Suffice it to recall the president's statement: We prefer not to sign, or not to reach, any agreement, but to keep the situation as it is rather than let it go on record that we conceded the right to non-Lebanese forces to govern on our territory.

In light of all these considerations, we appeal to all the Lebanese in their various forces, and to private and official institutions, to stand resolutely and firmly against the draft agreement. We especially address this appeal to his excellency the president, the government, and the Chamber of Deputies so that they may be aware of the dangers which the signing and ratification of this agreement entail. We hold them responsible for our destiny before God, the people, and history. This is the national stand that expresses the will of the Lebanese people. On the basis of this stand we call on the Arab and friendly states and the international circles to support us in our stand.

Karami Explains Rejection of Agreement

NC181328 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 May 83

[Excerpts] In Tripoli, [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami commented on the agreement. He said that it will not achieve

security and sovereignty and that despite the fact that it has been signed, there is still a way out to correct the march and the situation to again unify the Lebanese ranks and clear the air and strengthen relations with the Arabs. The following is a recording of Karami's statement:

[Begin recording] We must be honest with ourselves, loyal to our cause and country, and frank with the citizens. We support sovereignty, national unity, and Lebanon's role and relations with its Arab environs. Therefore, we supported the government and all its proposals, principles, and the redlines it specified. In our view, this agreement does not achieve, observe, or safeguard sovereignty, the national interests or Lebanese-Arab relations. We have explained this in detail.

Suffice it to ask if our foreign minister, in his statement before the Chamber of Deputies, insisted that the articles of this agreement do not differ from the armistice agreement. If this is true, why all this uproar, and why this new agreement which has led to differences and disputes among the Lebanese, which is what we want to end? How can we accept the option of either Sharon or Sa'd Haddad? And when Lebanon undertakes to safeguard security in the Galilee — in addition to part of the price they announced, saying they were forced to pay — this means that what has taken place was under the conditions of occupation, that is, under the influence of force. According to the law, this is null and void.

Despite the fact that the agreement has been signed, we still hope to correct the march and situation. There is a way out to again unify the Lebanese ranks and clear the air, and strengthen relations with the Arab countries.

I want to call attention to the fact that the definition of the Arab countries' stand by people other than their officials, and by our ministers and information media will not serve our cause or help us. These stands are untrue. [end recording]

PSP's Junblatt Cited on Opposition Measures

JN181531 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt today called for the formation of a wide Lebanese military and political opposition front [jabhat mu'aradah siyasiyyah wa 'askariyyah lubnaniyah wasi'ah] comprising the major Lebanese parties and political and parliamentary figures from all factions which the national sovereignty and Lebanon's Arabism and reject the hegemony of the Phalangist Party and Israel's advantages in the Lebanese homeland.

Speaking to an AFP correspondent in Amman, Junblatt explained that negotiations will soon start to organize the resistance which, if deemed necessary, will include political, military, and economic arrangements in the areas under opposition control.

National Bloc Leader Deplores Talks With Israel

PM181608 Paris Le Monde in French 18 May 83 p 3

[Unattributed report: "The Signing of the Israeli-Lebanese Agreement"]

[Excerpt] In Paris Lebanese National Bloc (moderate Christians) leader Raymond Iddih expressed the view that the Lebanese Government "ought to have demanded the withdrawal of the Israeli forces, citing the Lebanese-Israeli armistice agreement and Resolution 509, adopted by the Security Council on 6 June 1982, which stipulates that "Israel should immediately and unconditionally withdraw all its military forces to Lebanon's internationally recognized borders." Deploring the fact that "the Lebanese Government has unfortunately agreed to negotiate with Israel, abandoning the armistice agreement, and has approved the draft agreement under the constraint of the occupation of almost half of the national territory by Israel which, until the signing of the peace treaty, can only be regarded as the enemy," Mr Iddih stated that the Lebanese Government ought first "to explicitly repeal the Cairo agreement" governing the Palestinian presence in Lebanon. "As for the Syrian forces," he said, "it is up to the Lebanese head of state to ask the Syrian head of state to withdraw them, as agreed."

Junblatt Calls for Resistance Front 18 May

NC181717 Paris AFP in English 1709 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Amman, May 18 (AFP) — Walid Junblatt, Lebanese Druze leader and head of the Progressive Socialist Party, today called for a broad political and military opposition "resistance" front to the Israeli-Lebanese agreement.

He told AFP here that the front should comprise the main Lebanese political parties as well as personalities "of all faiths" attached to Lebanese sovereignty and its membership of the Arab world while opposing the Christian Phalangist Party's domination and "Israeli privileges in part of the country".

Talks on setting up this front would start soon, he said.

The front should, if necessary, involve the political, military and economic organisation of regions controlled by opposition forces — which might be removed from state authority if the government continued to ban any chance of dialogue, he said.

Dialogue with the government must include the questioning of the agreement with Israel and a new approach to domestic policy based on the aspirations of various political movements, he added.

Syria was "irreversibly" opposed to the Israeli-Lebanese accord, Mr Junblatt stated, since it could not tolerate a nation close to Israel on its western frontier.

The United States had skillfully wrested Arab countries' support for the accord before they even knew its terms, he said, but they would come to see its dangers.

VOL Reports Junblatt Arrives in Mountain 18 May
NC181837 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Our correspondent has learned that [Progressive Socialist Party leader] Walid Junblatt arrived in the Qibbay' area via the Duhur as-Shuwayr road at midday today and held contacts with officials in 'Alayh and the Ash-Shuf on the latest developments.

Junblatt expressed surprise at the information which used to reach him in Damascus and Amman, which was contrary to the true situation in the mountain. This information was not always speaking about the call for consolidating calm and avoiding violence, but was reversing this fact. Our correspondent adds that Junblatt asked a certain official in the mountain to get in touch with [Amal Movement leader] Nabih Barri so the latter will adopt a stand on the bloc opposed to the agreement, provided that the answer will be conveyed through a special envoy carrying a written report.

It should be recalled that in his latest statement made at Beirut airport, Barri declared his full support for the steps taken by the government. This statement by Barri conflicts with another statement by the Amal Movement's military official in Ba'labakk.

Syrians Reopen Damascus-Beirut Road 18 May
NC181219 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] At 1100 today, a Syrian roadblock in Duhur ash-Shuwayr cut the road leading to Zahlah after the men manning the roadblock kidnapped a number of citizens.

The Syrians have established a similar roadblock on the Al-'Urbaniyah Road and kidnapped some people.

In another development, security reports say that the international road between Beirut and Damscus, as well as other roads in Lebanon under Syrian control, were reopened today.

VOL on Libyan, Palestinian Intelligence Activity
NC181904 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] It has been learned that fugitive Lieutenant Ahmad al-Khatib recently increased his activity in northern Lebanon, especially in Halba, where he established new training centers and camps and received large quantities of modern weapons from Libya.

According to information, the Libyan intelligence service has opened centers in West Beirut which purportedly deal with cultural affairs and other similar activities, but which in fact are staging points for agents who occasionally carry out terrorist operations, the latest of which was the attack on a Lebanese army patrol in Bi'r al-'Abid [in the southern suburb of Beirut] yesterday.

The information adds that the Palestinian organizations' security services have reorganized their ranks in Beirut by unassuming methods, such as using some civilian establishments and charitable societies. These organizations are exploiting their previous relations with some officials for financing some Lebanese extremist organizations.

Press on U.S., Soviet, Syrian Roles in Mideast
NC190748 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 19 May 83

[Press review]

[Excerpt] *An-Nahar* says in an editorial that so far it appears that the U.S. Administration wants to handle the Syrian refusal separately from the Soviet rejection while carefully ignoring the continuous Soviet request for the right to participate in determining the area's future. In this context, President Reagan clearly declared at his recent news conference that he sees no reason to invite the Soviet Union to take part in the negotiations. The paper adds that Lebanon has succeeded in deepening the U.S. commitment to help Lebanon to save itself. This commitment reached its climax with the signing of the Lebanese-U.S. [as heard] agreement. The U.S. Administration is the guarantee for Israel's abidance by the agreement, and it is the guarantee for providing conditions for its implementation.

Commenting on President Reagan's statement yesterday, *Al-Anwar* considers his statement as a multipurpose message to several quarters. The first is that there will be no retreat from the withdrawal agreement or from saving Lebanon. The second is that there is no role for the Soviets in settling the crises in Lebanon and in the Middle East while recognizing that Syria has a role but not with the Soviets or through them and while acknowledging what Secretary Shultz termed Syria's legitimate security fears in Lebanon and no more. The third is that Damascus will be isolated at the Arab level should it adhere to its refusal. The fourth is that the Marines will stay in Beirut, their number will be increased, and the area of their deployment will be expanded. The fifth is that there are big dangers if the agreement is foiled and that the United States is prepared to use all means to protect the agreement.

As-Safir discusses yesterday's Cabinet session. It says that Lebanese-Syrian relations were discussed yesterday with U.S. Ambassador Philip Habib and at the Cabinet session during which President Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan emphasized the importance of relations with Syria. Quoting diplomatic sources, *As-Safir* says that Lebanon is now seeking with Saudi Arabia to tackle the situation between Lebanon and Syria. This follows the outcome of yesterday's meeting between Foreign Minister Salim and Saudi Charge d'Affaires Abu Baqr Rafi'. The sources did not rule out that some West European countries will play an important part in this issue, particularly France. These sources admitted that Lebanon cannot handle the current situation alone and that, therefore, it is waiting for European and Arab efforts in this respect.

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Text of *As-Safir* Interview With Minister Khaddam

NC181014 Beirut As-Safir in Arabic 16 May 83 pp 1, 12

[Interview with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam by *As-Safir* correspondent Muwaffaq Madani; place and date not given]

[Text] In a special interview with *As-Safir*, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said that the Lebanese Government surprised Syria by the contents of the agreement which it intends to conclude with Israel, because the information it provided Syria on the negotiations fully contradicted the results.

The Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister said that in 1943, Syria recognized the establishment of an independent Lebanese state on the basis of commitments by the Lebanese leaders that Lebanon would not be used as a base for imperialism or a base from which fraternal Arab states are colonized. The agreement with Israel will undermine the foundations upon which Lebanon was built and, consequently, the relations between the Lebanese state and Syria.

In a lengthy and sharp dialogue, Khaddam refuted the provisions of the agreement, particularly those that Syria believeswill infringe on Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, and national unity as well as those constituting a source of danger to Syria's security.

Khaddam said Syria entered Lebanon in 1976 to avert a national imbalance and to prevent the coercion of the Christians. Today it is being demanded, with the same national logic, that Syria avert a situation of victor — whose basic support is the Israeli occupation — and vanquished, and subsequently, Syria should, with all possible means, prevent a national imbalance by coercing the Muslims.

Khaddam said that Israel has imposed Sa'd Haddad, his forces, the militias, and the national guards on Lebanon, thus undermining the foundations of sovereignty. The sovereignty in the south is being shared between Lebanon and Israel through the institutions to be established under the agreement.

Khaddam denounced the accusations that his country has been interfering in Lebanon's domestic affairs, and he wondered why our intervention in 1976 at the request of "the Lebanese Front" was not regarded as interference in domestic affairs?

Khaddam affirmed that the agreement abolishes Lebanon's commitment to the Arab League Charter, the collective defense pact, and the Arab summit resolutions and, consequently, ends Lebanon's Arab affiliation. It includes the recognition of the State of Israel. In this context, it is worse than Camp David, and it is similar to the Petain agreement, which French Marshal Petain had signed under the Nazi occupation of France, and its fate will be the same.

Khaddam said: Why does Israel not agree to relax and withdraw its army as long as the Lebanese state guaranteesthe goals of Israel's incursion and its continued occupation of Lebanon?

Khaddam stressed that the agreement will not be allowed and will not be implemented. Syria will not allow its implementation regardless of the developments in the area. Lebanon is not dearer to Syria than Egypt, but relations were severed nevertheless when Egypt committed itself to Camp David.

Khaddam said that Syria will not withdraw from Lebanon for several considerations, including those of safeguarding Lebanon's integrity and achieving its national balance, and those connected with Syrian security. Syria's withdrawal will render Syria responsible for handing over Lebanon to Israel.

The following is the text of the dialogue:

The Surprise and the Contradiction

[Madani] The discussion began in an offensive spirit from the first moment. I told 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam: We have been shocked by our reaction to what Dr Elie Salim had carried to you. You acted as though you were surprised by the Lebanese stand although we know the Lebanese Government kept you informed of the progress in the negotiations and briefed you on the details of the draft agreement?

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam answered: We were surprised over the draft agreement and its content because it contradicts all that was communicated to us by the Lebanese side. During previous contacts we were not briefed on details of the agreements. All we were told was that the negotiations were stumbling and there were redlines that the Lebanese state cannot exceed. These redlines were defined as follows:

1. That the agreement shall not affect Lebanon's integrity.

2. That the agreement shall not affect Lebanon's sovereignty.

3. That the agreement shall not affect Lebanon's Arab relations.

Khaddam added: During Minister Elie Salim's next to the last visit, he gave us a more defined idea about the draft agreement. We told him that the terms would dictate surrender for Lebanon, that it was inconsistent with Lebanon's interest and its Arab affiliation, and that it contradicted all that the Lebanese officials had told us, be it directly or through the information media.

[Question] The Lebanese Government yesterday again announced its desire to keep the dialogue with Syria open. We fear that, as you have expressed it, the Syrian position will close this door to Lebanon?

Khaddam said: When it comes to fateful matters, we cannot look for the gray areas. For many reasons, this agreement places Lebanon under Israeli hegemony. The first point against this agreement is its form, which is connected with the concept. The agreement puts Lebanon — the victim — on equal footing with theaggressor, Israel.

The preamble to the agreement speaks of the joint belief of Lebanon and Israel in the UN Charter. I wonder where the UN Charter was when the Israeli aircraft, the Israeli Navy, and the Israeli artillery were pounding the city of Beirut, were pounding all the other Lebanese villages and cities, and were killing and

wounding the Lebanese and the Palestinians by the thousands.

This premable washes and cleanses Israel before world public opinion, and even before Israeli public opinion. It makes Israel look like a peace-loving state. Consequently, all the crimes that were perpetrated during the invasion have been erased — and this is infinitely grave.

This state of affairs forces us to recall that it was no coincidence that Israel reached Beirut and that some Lebanese quarters — including official quarters — remained silent and refrained from opening their mouths to utter a single word.

This is as far as the preamble is concerned.

Abu Jamal, as his friends call him, added: Now we go back to the contents of the agreement. As I pointed out yesterday in the interview I granted to some Lebanese journalists, there are bases on which Lebanese-Syrian relations have been established since independence, and any defect in these bases will cause a defect in the relations between the Lebanese state and Syria.

Let us consider the year 1943, when the Syrian Parliament and the Syrian Government agreed to recognize the Lebanese state. This agreement was based on the pledges that were made by the Lebanese leaders that Lebanon would neither be an abode for imperialism nor a gateway for the imperialism of the Arab brothers to pass through it in a manner harmful and detrimental to Syria.

On the strength of these commitments, the majority of the Lebanese then agreed to join the fold of the State of Lebanon — and before hand, in most of Lebanon, they were refusing to join this state. This agreement was secured under pressure that was applied through Syrian interventions [mudakhalat]. I remember that at that time, a mammoth demonstration was staged in Tripoli against Syria because Syria had accepted these commitments.

The relations between the two countries were formulated in light of national and pan-Arab considerations. However, when the Israeli occupation turns into a real material, political, and economic presence that is agreeable to Lebanon, then this matter disturbs the bases on which the relations existing between the two countries were established.

A Discussion of the Provisions

[Question] Naturally, we have not seen the details of the agreement so I can discuss its provisions with you. However, Minister Elie Salim told me: I believe that the agreement adheres to the framework of the 1948 armistice, and perhaps Syria has gone far in interpreting this development of the armistice agreement.

[Answer] Brother Elie Salim's statement — to the effect that the agreement adheres to the framework of the 1948 armistice — is not accurate. Had things been this way, there would have been no need for negotiations and for an agreement.

This agreement is now in my hands — let us read some of its provisions. Let us, for instance, take Articel 4 of Chapter 1. This article stipulates: "The territories of either side shall not be used as a base for hostile or terrorist activity against the other side or its people."

The Lebanese Government also commits itself to quelling any anti-Israeli activity, whether this activity is material or moral, political or cultural. This means that an article published in any Lebanese newspaper could be regarded as hostile activity and that a demand could be foisted on Lebanon to suppress it.

Article 4 also speaks of the suppression and prevention of any action tending to instigate, assist, or participate in any military, subversive, instigative, or aggressive action against Israel.

This article also signifies the suppression of any Lebanese citizen who views Israel as the enemy of Lebanon and the Arabs.

(He continues reading the text of the agreement.)

Then, if we peruse Article 5, it commits Lebanon to preventing any form of propaganda hostile to Israel. This means that the state might turn into a police state against the patriots in Lebanon to protect Israel's moral, political, cultural, and material security.

Where is Sovereignty?!

(He turns the papers.) "The Lebanese Government has the right to deploy international forces on Lebanese territory to help the Lebanese Government establish its authority. The new states that will participate in these forces in the future shall be selected from states that have diplomatic relations with both sides." In other words, this means that Lebanon does not have the right to seek help from any state if this state does not have diplomatic relations with Israel — not only on the Lebanese border, but even in Beirut, in the mountain, in the north, or in any area of Lebanon! I mean Lebanese sovereignty, where is Lebanon's free decisionmaking?

(He puts his finger on the paper.) Then if we consider Article 8 and its provisions, it contains provisions calling for the formation of a liaison committee and an Israeli liaison office on Lebanese territory. This office shall enjoy diplomatic immunities, which is exactly what is stipulated in the agreement. They wanted to avoid calling it an embassy, so it was called "a liaison office." How does this compare with the armistice agreement?

(He turns a page.) Then, if we peruse the Appendix and the Explanatory Minutes and the Epilogue, we find that Israel has imposed on the Lebanese Government the forces of Sa'd Haddad, be they the soldiers, the militias, or the so-called "national guard" that Israel has established. All these forces have been imposed on the Lebanese state — and no one accepts that an invading state should be able to impose on him an officer or a soldier, or hundreds or thousands so these people will be responsible for security in Lebanon. Therefore, where is the Lebanese sovereignty?

(He continues.) In addition, the south now is no longer under the jurisdiction of Lebanese sovereignty. Sovereignty over the south

has become joint — shared by Lebanon and Israel through four institutions: The Liaison Committee, the Security Committee, the Investigation Committees, the Investigation Centers ... [ellipsis as published] and also the security cooperation between the Lebanese Army and the Israeli forces. For example, at sea the Lebanese naval forces must exchange information with the Israeli naval forces, and if they see suspicious targets, they must search them and notify Israel.

In addition to these things, there are areas in Lebanon in which the Lebanese state is forbidden to emplace specific weapons. Lebanon is forbidden to have air defenses. Lebanese civil aircraft are banned from flying over the southern area, except after having informed Israel. How can we accept the logic that says this agreement is an armistice agreement?

There is also a basic matter related to Lebanon's sovereignty and freedom. This agreement leaves no room for sovereignty nor a place for freedom.

And About the Internal Defect

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam continued, speaking with the fluency of someone who had studied the theme of his talk well: We move to the effect of the agreement on the redline with regard to national unity in Lebanon. An odd situation existed. Now, there is a case of imbalance. There is a vanquishing side. This side has announced that it must be able to act as a vanquisher. It also wants to reap the fruits of its victory resulting from its alliance with Israel. And there is also a vanquished side.

Before the domestic state of affairs in Lebanon is rectified, we cannot say that a state of accord or a national consensus exists. Now there is no balance. Who will assume the sensitive posts from now on? Who will assume security in Lebanon and who will be in charge of the districts?

[Question] (interrupting) I believe, Mr Minister, that Syria has no right to discuss Lebanese domestic matters, just as Lebanon has no right to discuss Syrian domestic matters; that is, if we want to maintain the idea of sovereignty. The Lebanese authorities say that the agreement has no political character, but that it is merely a security arrangement.

Khaddam replied: First, the question is not one that falls under Lebanon's domestic affairs. When the "Lebanese Front" command came in 1976 to seek the help of Syria and to demand that Syria send troops to bring about a disengagement and avert an imbalance, then it was not regarded as interference in Lebanon's domestic affairs?

[Question] But your entry into Lebanon was at the official request of the Lebanese Government.

[Answer] We entered at the request of the Lebanese state.

[Question] Not only at the request of one party?

[Answer] We entered at the request of the Lebanese state and "the Lebanese Front" Command. In particular, Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil, Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil, Dany Sham'un, George Sa'adah, Edmond Rizq, Joseph Abu Khalil, and Joseph al-Hashim, all of whom were crying for help, came to this office dozens of times. If we wanted to publish what they told us, you would be amazed. There is so much amazement these days! The question is not a domestic one. It is connected with Lebanon's destiny.

In 1976, we entered to avert a situation, in which their was a victor and a vanquished, to prevent a situation of coercion from arising. In no way can we accept a continuation of the deteriorating situation, and we will not allow the implementation of a scheme aimed against the nationalists and Muslims, through which hundreds of thousands of Muslims are expelled from Lebanon, thus changing the social structure in Lebanon through the alliance with Israel. We in Syria sense this danger, and we cannot allow it to become real, serious, and imminent.

You say that the provisions are security provisions. Is banning the Lebanese citizen from criticizing Israel a security provision? Is banning Saudi Arabia from importing military equipment via Beirut port a security provision? If a Lebanese party wants to distribute a statement against Israel, or if a Lebanese poet wants to write a poem against Israel, will they be banned in accordance with a security provision? Never. These provisions violate Lebanon's sovereignty.

(He turns a paper.) There is another serious matter. Article 9 of the agreement says:

1. Both parties shall, in a period not exceeding 1 year from the time this agreement goes into effect, take all the necessary measures to revoke the treaties, laws, and regulations that run counter to this agreement, in accordance with the constitutional rules of both parties.

2. Both parties shall pledge not to implement any present agreement contradicting this agreement, and also not to make any commitment or enact any laws or regulations contradicting this agreement.

What does this mean? It means that Lebanon should abrogate its commitment to the Arab League Charter, the Arab Collective Defense Pact, and the Arab summit resolutions. It should not ratify any agreement with any other country if it conflicts with this agreement. Where is Lebanese sovereignty and where is Lebanon's Arab affiliation?

It is a Recognition of Israel

[Question] (interrupting) To correct your viewpoint, Mr Minister, I believe there is a difference between the Camp David political peace and the Lebanese security agreement. This is dictated by the reasons for the present occupation of Lebanon. Why are you asking Lebanon to account from the political angle?

[Answer] (interrupting) This is a big mistake.

[Question] (continuing) It is not a political peace, and it will not have procedures similar to the Camp David agreement.

[Answer] This is a political agreement, because first it is an

agreement between the Lebanese and the Israeli Governments.

[Question] But not at the statesmen's level.

[Answer] (interrupting) Allow me, isn't the agreement going to be signed between two governments and isn't it going to be presented to the Chamber of Deputies for ratification in accordance with constitutional procedures? Second, this agreement says under Article 1: (Turns papers and reads) Both sides pledge to respect each other's sovereignty, political independence, and territorial integrity. They consider the existing international border between Lebanon and Israel as inviolable.

This paragraph means the recognition of Israel.

[Question] (interrupting) Mr Minister, this paragraph is in fact an interpretation of the 1948 Armistice agreement with some evolution because the armistice agreement basically defines the international border between the two countries.

[Answer] There is a great difference between the contents of the armistice agreement and those in this agreement. From a legal viewpoint, this is political recognition of Israel. Secondly, paragraph two says: Both sides affirm that the state of war is over and no longer exists.

Is ending the state of war a security factor or a political factor?

[Question] In the 1948 Armistice agreement there is a provision similar to that of ending the state of war. Originally, Lebanon never took part in previous wars due to its exceptional status as recognized by the Arab states. Ending the state of war then is not a surprise. The agreement hardly departs from the framework of Lebanon's traditional policy.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam answered: First, Lebanon is an Arab country, it is committed to all Arab resolutions and charters, and it is being treated on this bases; secondly, the contents of the agreement are completely different from the contents of the armistice agreement. Why did Israel insist on concluding a new agreement? This is a complete peace treaty, and it is worse than the Camp David agreements.

The Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty did not impose on Egypt that Israel share in the administration of Sinai, and it did not impose on Egypt some of the things this agreement imposes on Lebanon.

This is a political agreement. When talking about recognition, ending the state of war, and abolishing Lebanon's commitments that are inconsistent with this agreement, can we say that this is a security agreement? This shows contempt for the Lebaense and their minds. No one can cover up or conceal these provisions. If the matter was otherwise, why then isn't Lebanon adhering to the armistice agreement?

[Question] (interrupting) Lebanon did not adhere to the letter of the 1948 Armistice agreement. The reasons were that half of its territory was occupied and a third of its people were under Israeli occupation. Moreover, there are situations aimed at partitioning the country, threatening Lebanon, and affecting Syria as well as the area.

[Answer] Therefore, this agreement is different from the armistice agreement and is an attempt to abolish the armistice.

[Question] (interrupting) This is an armistice agreement, but it is a developed one and its principles and provisions are not those of an armistice agreement.

[Answer] (continuing) It is an attempt to cover up the provisions detrimental to Lebanon's sovereignty and its future. This agreement is an exposed attempt. It is like the agreements Marshal Petain signed under the Nazi occupation. Its fate will be similar. Nobody can adopt a separate stand. We urge all the Lebanese, particularly the Lebanese officials, to realize the facts. Restricting Lebanon in this way will have serious consequences on Lebanon's future and on the area's future.

To say this agreement has saved Lebanon's integrity is absolutely incorrect. This agreement will not restore security and peace to Lebanon because there are nationalists who will resist Israel in Lebanon. No power can protect the liaison committees, the investigation committees, the liaison bureau, and those who had dealings with Israel. The Lebanese people are nationalist and Arab people, and the Lebanese nationalists will oppose this agreement. We will support them and will give them every assistance and support. This agreement will subsequently impose a serious situation in Lebanon. We were and are still hoping that the Lebanese officials will realize this for the sake of Lebanon and the other Arab countries.

[Question] Let us return to the calmer aspects of Lebanese-Syrian relations. I believe, as Minister Salim said, that this agreement is not born yet and that there is room for give and take between Lebanon and Syria. There is a possibility of eliminating ambiguities to arrive at a realistic view of matters.

[Answer] The question is not one of personal relations between us and some Lebanese leaders. Actually, there are leaders in the Lebanese state with whom we have personal and cordial relations. This is one thing, and fateful relations of a pan-Arab character are another.

Khaddam added: So far, all doors are open for discussion. After the agreement is signed, however, new circumstances will arise between the two countries. Official Lebanon will be in a completely different position. Official Lebanon will be in a state of conciliation and cooperation with Israel, while we are in a state of war with Israel. The majority of the Lebanese people stand by Syria against Israel.

[Question] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil expressed the view that there are 50,000 soldiers occupying Lebanese territory. How can Lebanon get rid of these occupiers, especially as there are more than 30,000 Israelis, without paying a small price as an occupied country exposed to fragmentation and partition?

[Answer] This agreement has substituted the 50,000 Israeli soldiers with placing all Lebanon under Israel's disposal! Why did Israel deploy its army in Lebanon? Israeli deployed its army in Lebanon to achieve specific objectives. Because these objectives were achieved without having to use its army, Israel has

spared itself the burden of the presence of an army exposed to daily attrition.

If, under this agreement, Lebanon has ended the state of war, terminated its Arab relations and Arab commitments, pledged to suppress the Lebanese citizens and prevent them from acting against Israel, and decided to open the border and allow the free movement of goods and persons, why then is Israel maintaining 50,000 soldiers in the country? Israel has replaced its 50,000 soldiers with this agreement, and the objectives Israel wants to achieve in Lebanon were entrusted to the Lebanese state to implement on Israel's account.

[Question] When the Camp David agreement was signed, there was a collective Arab reaction against it. We, as observers, do not notice an Arab reaction against the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, except for Syria, Libya, and the PDRY.

[Answer] Israeli and Western information media are trying to mislead the people by claiming that it is a withdrawal agreement. We must view the articles of this agreement, as I pointed out a short while ago; this is not a withdrawal agreement, but an agreement for using Lebanon in Israel's strategy. At any rate, the Arab world will not accept such an agreement. There is the geographical factor that everyone must calculate and no one should miscalculate.

[Question] I am afraid this may be your personal judgement rather than calculations expressing a tangible reality, that is, the real positions of the Arab countries, which have publicly or tacitly welcomed the Lebanese agreement.

[Answer] Anyway, everyone, as I have said, must realize the importance of geography and I repeat that no one must miscalculate, because miscalculations in fateful issues will have very grave results. This agreement will not be implemented and we will not allow its implementation, no matter how things develop in the area. This is because we will not and cannot allow the extension of the Camp David accords to Lebanon and then to other Arab countries, because we in Syria will be besieged, the Palestinian issue will be liquidated, and the area will be placed under Israel's hegemony. We hope those who are playing this game will realize its inherent dangers. This agreement will not ensure personal or collective peace for all those who are trying to place an Arab country — Lebanon or any Arab country — within Israel's strategic sphere.

[Question] Let us forego all these negative aspects and place future Lebanese-Syrian relations in their natural framework. Do you think the question requires the convocation of a bilateral Lebanese-Syrian summit?

[Answer] We held lengthy discussions with Minister Elie Salim yesterday. President al-Asad also talked with him for a long time. The man admitted and said: All you said is true, and this agreement has restrictions and limits our sovereignty. We informed him of our stand and that if the agreement is signed, many conditions [zuruf] will arise between the two countries. You know Egypt's importance. Egypt and Syria fought several times in history against foreign invasions. We also fought together in 1948, 1967, and 1973. Despite this, the Camp David accords led to the severance of all relations between us and Egypt.

[Question] The Lebanese agreement is not the Camp David accords.

[Answer] (sharply) This is worse than the Camp David accords. If the Lebanese had accepted the Camp David accords, it would be 1 million times better because the restrictions placed on Lebanon do not exist in the Camp David accords.

[Question] If you were in Lebanon, faced with such an occupation that extended to the social, economic, and political structures of Lebanese society, both within the sects and the economy, what would you do?

[Answer] I would act to achieve unity of the internal front and resist the occupation. France was in Lebanon and penetrated the infrastructure of Lebanese society. You know there were many Lebanese who considered France a loving mother. Despite this, France withdrew. If Lebanon and Syria accepted...

[Question] (correspondent interrupts) France is one thing and Israel another.

[Answer] No, if Lebanon and Syria had accepted what the French tried to impose, Lebanon would not have been liberated and Syria would not have gained its independence. Nazi Germany occupied France and Europe and imposed agreements on Belgium and all the European countries; The Petain agreement in France is an example. Despite this, was Petain's option acceptable to the French people? Was King's Baudouin's option acceptable to the Belgian people? Was the Romanian King's option acceptable to the Romanian people?

[Question] Mr Minister...

[Answer] (continuing) Peoples cannot build their future and destiny on such a dictated option. They either accept restrictions, humiliation, and commitments [under the agreement] or the occupation will stay. There is a primaryoption; namely, resisting the occupation. If Lebanon had not entered the negotiations, Israel would have withdrawn. Israel occupied southern Lebanon in 1978 but it withdrew. All the world will stand by Lebanon.

[Question] (interrupting) But Israel did not occupy the Lebanese capital, it did not besiege the Republican Palace in B'abda, it did not cut off the various areas, and it did not attempt to establish direct relations with some Lebanese communities.

[Answer] (interrupting) This is occupation.

[Question] (continuing) Israel did not occupy Lebanon with 40,000 soldiers.

[Answer] (continuing) This is occupation, this is occupation.

[Question] The comparison is not accurate.

[Answer] (continuing) This is occupation, this is occupation. It's also a trump card in Lebanon's hands to oust Israel. Second, Israel did not play with the Lebanese communities. Some persons

have dealings with Israel, but the Lebanese communities and the Lebanese people are against Israel. The presence of persons dealing with Israel does not mean that the people have been dealing with Israel. This is evident in that one or three Israeli soldiers are killed daily. If the general trend in Lebanon is against the occupation, I assure you that Israel cannot sustain the burden of occupation.

Israel cannot bear the burden of occupation. Israel has an interest in withdrawing. Therefore, the U.S. Government, as the Lebanese officials had informed us, has used its weight to pressure Lebanon to come out with this agreement.

[Question] You are comparing France's position vis-a-vis Germany in 1945 with Lebanon's position vis-a-vis Israel at present, while it is known that the national resistance led by De Gaulle against the Nazis depended on a balance of power, such as the Allies against the Axis states. France fell but the balance in Europe remained. Lebanon is now the victim of a lack of an Arab-Israeli balance. Since the beginning of the Khaldah negotiations until now, there has been no Arab position, no Arab initiative, no Arab support, and no Arab backing for Lebanon.

[Answer] This is an inaccurate and subjective statement. When the Algerians fought the French there were no axes nor balances. When the Vietnamese fought the Americans there were no axes nor balances. Moreover, Lebanon had trump cards in its hands. All the world, brother, will stand by it.

From the military aspect, it is possible to set up a strong military position against Israel. This position is now being formed. Therefore, attempting to mislead the people by such proposals will change no facts. I repeat that this agreement will not survive.

[Question] I am very very confident that the present regime and Lebanon are anxious to preserve their relations with Syria and will not neglect them. Since the beginning of the negotiations until now, Lebanon has been anxious not to ignore its relations with Syria for its interests and for geographic and historic considerations. Therefore, we believe in handling matters from their positive aspect to reach a formula that will not shut Lebanon's Arab door and open it to Israel, but that will lead to and aim at rescuing Lebanon from its present sufferings and possible fragmentation.

[Answer] This view also avoids objectivity. We are eager now, as we have always been, to maintain the best of relations with the Lebanese regime and with the Lebanese state in various aspects and during this phase. However, we cannot be on an equal footing with Israel. Moreover, we cannot see Lebanon becoming an Israeli base.

[Question] (interrupting) It is now a base and perhaps through the agreement it will not be a base?

[Answer] It has become a base through the agreement. When part of Lebanon is placed under Israeli surveillance; when a certain army is imposed on Lebanon; when the borders are open and Israeli goods enter Lebanon; when people move freely, and the Israelis come to Beirut and organize sabotage networks against Syria and the Arab world; while the Lebanese are prevented from criticizing or attacking Israel; and when these restrictions are placed on Lebanon's freedom and independence, then we cannot say there are aspects that can be overlooked or ignored. We want to have dealings with a free, independent, and sovereign Lebanon on an equal basis. By signing Article 9, which I referred to a short while ago and which dicates that Lebanon cancel all agreements, treaties, and commitments that run counter to this agreement, how can I say that Lebanon does not sever its Arab relations? Who says we will allow Lebanon to be a bridge for Israeli goods to the Arab world? Who says we will allow Lebanon to become a base for Israeli intelligence to conduct sabotage action in the Arab world? (sharply) Who says this? This question is linked with the core of our security. If the invading and aggressive Israel is seeking its security in Beirut, everyone must realize that Syria's security comes first, because Syria's security constitutes security for the Lebanese people and the entire Arab nation.

[Question] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said the reservations you raised regarding your security cannot be ignored and called on Lebanon and Syria to negotiate this issue. Do you believe it is necessary to negotiate with Lebanon on the security issue to ensure your reassurance about the future?

[Answer] Under the shadow of this agreement, no talks will be held.

[Question] What will be your position if Lebanon officially asks you to withdraw?

[Answer] We exist in Lebanon for several reasons. Some of these reasons are connected with maintaining Lebanon's unity and national balance and others are connected with our security. Anyway, this question will be studied and discussed in light of the new developments and the status quo. As we have told the Lebanese Government, the Syrian forces' will stay as long as there is any Israeli gain. We are ready to withdraw immediately from Lebanon if Israel withdraws unconditionally. However, any Israeli gain will prolong our forces' stay.

[Question] The United States maintains that it justifies Israel's stay in Lebanon if Syria does not withdraw. This ends the agreement and places Lebanon in a state of condominium.

[Answer] (laughing) What does condominium mean?

[Question] It means that Lebanon is partitioned under two military powers, one Israeli and the other Syrian, and, consequently, Lebanon will lose its legality, territorial integrity, and independence.

[Answer] If we withdraw from Lebanon, all Lebanon will be under Israeli influence. This is unacceptable and impossible. Those who negotiated with Israel should have taken Syria's stand as well as the stand of the repressed Lebanese public opinion into consideration.

[Question] Doesn't your stay in Lebanon hold you responsible for the dangers that might ensue, at least before the world?

[Answer] Our withdrawal from Lebanon under this agreement will make us responsible for handing Lebanon over to Israel.

[Question] Do you expect an Arab summit to convene to discuss the developments that have taken place with regard to Lebanon?

[Answer] This matter does not concern us.

[Question] Are we really at the moment when war could break out?

[Answer] According to our observation, Israel has concentrated some of its forces and has carried out measures on the ground. We have also been hearing Israeli threats at various times.

We have taken defensive measures. Naturally, if we are subjected to any Israeli aggression, we shall use our legitimate right to defend ourselves.

[Question] How do you explain U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' statement that Syria has left the door open, while he continues to emphasize Syria's importance in the Middle East?

[Answer] The door would be open or closed to the extent this agreement is halted or canceled. If this agreement continues, there would be no door open.

[Question] You mean to the Americans?

[Answer] Shultz was talking about Lebanon.

[Question] President Hafiz al-Asad visited Saudi Arabia. You were with him. You did not explain to us the meaning of the identity of views on the agreement and what you meant by joint and bilateral measures. What does this mean in practice?

[Answer] As you are aware, meetings take place every now and then between us and our brothers in Saudi Arabia by virtue of the good relations between the two countries and by virtue of our having a mutual interest in all the Arab issues.

In fact, a discussion on the agreement took place and all of us saw the dangers inherent in this agreement. We agreed to exert efforts and to work for the elimination of all these dangers.

[Question] How can this be achieved?

[Answer] Not everything that is discussed among officials is made public.

[Question] We heard of Arab attempts to open a Jordanian-Syrian dialogue. How true is this?

[Answer] Contacts in fact took place between King Husayn and me through the seven-member committee. We discussed relations between the two countries. Until now, we have not reached tangible results.

[Question] Is it possible for the Arab seven-member committee to resume its work, following the recent developments in Lebanon, and to adopt an Arab initiative?

[Answer] Nobody discussed this subject with us, nor was this subject proposed to us.

[Question] The Americans still emphasize that you will withdraw from Lebanon. The last statement by Shultz said he expects you to withdraw from Lebanon.

[Answer] I am surprised Shultz arrived at such a conclusion. I doubt he made such a statement. (the telephone rings; he continues). However, he was clearly and frankly told that Syria will prolong its forces' stay in Lebanon until the last Israeli gain vanishes.

[Question] Are you prepared to receive American envoys; Philip Habib, for example?

[Answer] This matter will be discussed in light of the specific request and in light of the circumstances.

[Question] What are the limits of the Soviet support for you in any war that might take place?

[Answer] The Soviet Union is a friendly country and it resolutely stands by our side. There is also the friendship treaty. The Soviet Union is honoring its commitments vis-a-vis this treaty and it is giving us support. But in any clash with Israel, it is Syria, by its power, that will confront and respond to the aggression.

[Question] High-level meetings were recently held among President Hafiz al-Asad, Yasir 'Arafat, and the PLO. It was reported that there is a new framework for Syrian-Palestinian relations and the likelihood of the formation of a joint committee to consecrate these relations.

[Answer] Relations between Syria and the PLO are good and at no stage have they deteriorated. There was some misunderstanding with some of the leaders in the Palestinian arena. The president received the PLO Executive Committee after the PNC meeting. Contacts exist and continue between us and the PLO. There are no specific frameworks, but we discuss everything together. I will be meeting in an almost continuous manner with Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the Political Department, and with some of my brothers in the Executive committee. We will discuss all matters of mutual interest.

Damascus on President Reagan's Statements

JN181426 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 May 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, U.S. President Ronald Reagan yesterday made statements on Lebanon, Syria, and the Middle East which remind us of statements that used to be made by the rulers of colonial powers in the old times when rulers of this or that colonial capital disposed of world affairs, dictated their wishes on others, and divided colonies and world zones among themselves. It seems that President Reagan has still not understood the present world condition or learned the necessary lessons from the downfall of the colonial system, the recession of colonial influence throughout the world, and the collapse of empires. More than that, President Reagan seems to want to forget the lesson taught

to the United States and its war machines and armies by the Vietnam war; namely, that in these days, and under the existing balances of powers, peoples can extract their freedom and independence, possess their national will, and face the strongest colonial powers and their war machines with full competence and success.

At his press conference yesterday, President Reagan not only spoke about the Middle East and its countries and destinies as if he were speaking about the Nevada desert or the State of California, but also spoke about Syria, and on behalf of Syria, as if he were the one with the decision to make on Syria or the one who could impose his wishes on Syria and make decisions for it. President Reagan said he is confident Syria will surmount its reservations and join Israel by agreeing to pull out its forces from Lebanon.

It is understood that Syria has not authorized anyone to speak on its behalf or declare the meaning of its future positionsand decisions. Syria is the master of its own decisions. What Syria does or does not do is decided in Damascus, not in Washington or anywhere else in the world. If there are people in Lebanon who have succumbed to U.S. pressure and blackmail and delegated their affairs and decisions to Reagan, Shultz, Habib, and Draper and, consequently, to Begin, Sharon, Arens, and Shamir, and made Washington dispose of their independence, territory, and sovereignty, Syria, under the leadership of Struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, retains its national decisionmaking and will never allow anyone to encroach on or prejudice this decisionmaking or will. Syria, as proven by past experiences and conflicts, will not succumb to pressures, threats, blackmail, or enticements. It is not succumbing now, and will not succumb in the future, to any form of pressure or threat, even if matters came to the point where the Washington rulers prompt their favorite tool, Israel, to resort to their favorite method, aggression.

The U.S. rulers know this. They have heard it every time they came to Damascus, carrying a stick in one hand and a carrot in the other. They have heard that Syria, which seeks peace, cannot possibly accept surrender or condone the war of surrender and humiliation against any other Arab country, especially fraternal Lebanon.

Even if in the past Syria has mentioned that it places the card of the Syrian forces' withdrawal in Lebanon's hands, to have it liberate its territory and remove the Israeli forces from its territory in accordance with UN Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509, this does not mean this card has been endorsed in the interest of the United States and Israel. There never has been an agreement or semi-agreement that the Syrian forces would withdraw from Lebanon when Israel gains from its invasion or annexes one-third of Lebanon within the sphere of its security or places it under its control, including the areas are adjacent to the Syrian borders and those that are close to them. If some in Lebanon have capitulated to Israel and the United States under the excuse of the necessity to safeguard the security of the northern areas of the territories on which the Zionist entity is established, then Syria is committed to taking its security affairs and the safety of its borders and territory into its own hands and fulfill its Arab commitments and pledges, from which it cannot escape, toward Lebanon and the security of the Arab nation at large.

What is between Syria and Lebanon is a bilateral Arab affair that does not concern the United States. This affair cannot be decided in Washington, and Syria cannot accept that it be decided in Washington or anywhere else.

When Lebanon frees itself from U.S. pressures, from the imposition of terms currently taking place by the United States, with the assistance of the Israeli tanks and artillery that surround B'abda Palace and Beirut, and from the assistance of the Zionist forces of occupation that are present in Lebanon, and when Lebanon no longer is a station or gateway for imperialism and Zionism, then there will be no problem between the two fraternal countries. There will be no issue that could not be resolved in an atmosphere of amity and understanding and in light of joint interests, common destiny, and the requirements of history, demography, and affiliation.

When Syria rejects the agreement, which has been imposed by the United States and Israel on Lebanon, its rejection will continue to be valid until this agreement, which harms Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, and security and the security of Syria, its interests and the security and interests of the Arab nation, is foiled.

Dear listeners, neither Reagan's statements nor the threats of the Israeli rulers will make Syria change its decision to assist the fraternal country in liberating itself from the invading Zionist forces.

Al-Ba'th on Negative Impact of Agreement

JN181254 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0915 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Damascus, 18 May (SANA) — In a dispatch by our correspondent in Beirut, the newspaper *Al-Ba'th* states that the meeting, during which the capitulatory contract was signed in both Khaldah and Qiryat Shemona yesterday, was held in an atmosphere of popular anger and questioning regarding Lebanon's destiny after the occupation forces had linked their presence in Lebanon to the position of the Syrian forces and the Palestinian resistance.

The newspaper adds: The national forces and the political bodies feel that this agreement, which was devoted to Shultz' plan to trap Lebanon in the cage of U.S. hegemony, has further complicated the situation without resolving any problems. Moreover, this agreement has guaranteed direct Israeli control over southern Lebanon, the extortion of the waters of Al-Litani, as well as the transformation of southern Lebanon into a base for aggression and observation particularly against the Syrian Arab Republic.

The correspondent quoted Lebanese quarters, knowledgeable in international law, as saying that this agreement deprives Lebanon of all the factors of its independence, all the conditions of its national unity and internal balance, and that the Israeli side can exploit the provisions of this agreement not only for direct military interference, but also for dictating Lebanon's domestic and foreign policy.

These legal quarters have asserted that this interference, whether Lebanon likes or not, will pave the way for implementing Israel's plan to divide the Lebanese entity and turn it into weak, rival entities under Israeli control and supervision. The political leaders of the parties and national forces believe that the first duty of the Lebanese masses is to denounce and hamper the implementation of the agreement and completely support the Lebanese reistance movement.

The paper adds: The Lebanese masses fear that a fascist authority might be established in Lebanon to impose unjust factional privileges by force of arms and other repressive and terrorist means. It also adds that not only is this possible, but was also demonstrated during the first hours of the occupation of Beirut where, in the absence of any law, large-scale kidnappings and liquidatory acts took place.

Iranian Delegation Due in Damascus 19 May

JN182110 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2058 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Tehran, 18 May (SANA) — An Iranian delegation led by Hosayn Sheykh ol-Eslam, assistant Iranian foreign minister, is to leave for Damascus tomorrow with a message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i to President Hafiz al-Asad dealing with the current developments in the region and the Iranian Islamic revolution's stand on these developments.

After its mission in Damascus, the delegation will leave for Libya to convey a similar message to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

CSSR Official Condemns Lebanese Agreement

JN181942 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Stanslav Svoboda, CSSR deputy minister of foreign affairs, has asserted that his country will continue to support Syria, which is the only obstacle preventing the implementation of imperialist designs in the region.

During a meeting today with Comrade Ilyas al-Lati, member of the Ba'th Party Regional Command and chairman of the Syrian-CSSR Friendship Society, Svoboda condemned the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, stressing that it serves the interests of U.S. imperialism and Zionism in the Middle East.

Details of Memorandum of Understanding Disclosed
TA181957 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] The memorandum of understanding that was signed in Washington yesterday by the Israeli charge d'affaires and the U.S. secretary of state states that both countries agree that the signed agreement between Israel and Lebanon is final and will not be opened for discussion during possible negotiations with Syria. Our military correspondent adds that it is agreed in the memorandum of understanding that the agreement with Lebanon will be implemented only after the exchanges of prisoners, the return of the missing, and the withdrawal of the PLO and Syrians from Lebanon.

The United States has also bound itself to prevent the torpedoing of the agreement, and promises to stand behind it in any way whatsoever, in the United Nations as well. Our correspondent notes that all the clauses of the memorandum of understanding involve the agreement signed between Israel and Lebanon, and not one clause speaks of U.S. aid to Israel or of a lifting of the embargo.

No Time Limit Set For Syrian Withdrawal Talks
TA181953 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Jerusalem is awaiting developments in the negotiations for the removal of Syrian forces from Lebanon. Our correspondent has learned that according to the memorandum of understanding signed between Israel and the United States, Israel will be permitted to pursue inside Lebanese territory if the terrorists attack Israel. Our correspondent Nisim Mish'al reports on what is expected in the further political negotiations:

[Mish'al] Israel, so people are saying in Jerusalem this evening, is giving itself a political space of time. The ball is in the Syrian court, and Israel has nothing left to do but watch from the sidelines as the U.S. attempts to persuade the Syrians to withdraw from Lebanon.

This evening political sources emphasized that Israel would not be able to wait for an unlimited period of time for the Syrians' withdrawal, if it occurs at all. At the same time, Israel will not set a definite time limit, so that there is no impression that an ultimatum has been imposed on the continuation of the negotiations. People in Jerusalem think that the government will wait for several weeks, and if it finds out that the Syrians do not intend to withdraw from Lebanon, it will hold discussions with the United States and Lebanon about its next steps.

The most reasonable possibility is a unilateral withdrawal to the Al-'Awwali River. In such a situation, people in Jerusalem stressed this evening, Israel would demand [tidrosh] other security arrangements. Let us stress: other security arrangements. And it would not be satisfied with arrangements achieved with Lebanon. The ministers who support a unilateral withdrawal emphasize: If such a decision is made, Israel will have to act to see to it that the territory to be evacuated is taken over by the Lebanese Army and members of the Multinational Force [MNF], not the Syrian Army and the terrorists. It is also worth stressing that in talks U.S. diplomats are holding with Israeli figures, they estimate that the Syrians will ultimately agree to conduct negotiations over a withdrawal from Lebanon. This is a tactic of negotiations, they add, according to which the Syrians are raising the price in order to reach appreciable achievements at the end of the negotiations.

To sum matters up, the spot lights are now aimed at the Syrians, and in Jerusalem people are hoping for a break in the political pressure, but not for a drop in the security tension with the Syrians.

Talks To Begin on New UNIFIL Deployment
TA190626 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 19 May 83

[Text] At the United Nations in New York, consultations will begin today on UNIFIL's new deployment in Lebanon as laid down in the agreement between Israel and Lebanon. Lebanese UN delegation members will discuss the matter with the UN Secretariat and representatives of the countries belonging to the UN Security Council.

Senior UNIFIL officers have told our correspondent Hayim Hecht that the clauses in the Lebanese-Israeli accord dealing with UNIFIL's role can be interpreted in various ways. The officers said that the force's future has not yet been discussed officially with the Lebanese Government. In addition, UNIFIL headquarters in An-Naqurah has not yet started planning the new deployment because the IDF does not allow UNIFIL officers to patrol the refugee camps near Sidon.

Peres Supports Unilateral Withdrawal Option
TA190800 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 19 May 83 p 3

[Text] Strasbourg, date not given (JTA) — Labour Party leader Shim'on Peres advocated a two-phased unilateral Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon should Syria persist in refusing to pull out its 40,000 men and accept the Israeli-Lebanese withdrawal agreement.

Peres, in Strasbourg at the invitation of the European Parliament, said that had he been in power, he would have informed Syria that if its forces did not get out of Lebanon by a given date, Israeli troops would carry out a first, 45-kilometre withdrawal with the Multi-National Force moving in to replace it.

Peres, whose views were made known by his personal spokesman, told the Europeans that this first withdrawal should be followed two to three months later by an additional pullback to the international border. Peres is reported to have told the Europeans that in his view, this policy would best preserve peace in the area and Israel's own security. He specified, however, that before Israel's second withdrawal to the border, its forces would have taken all necessary measures to ensure their future security.

This is the first time that Peres has publicly advocated a unilat-

eral Israel withdrawal from Lebanon. Peres is due to return to Israel tomorrow.

Israeli Arab Reception of Pact Said 'Mixed'

TA190815 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 19 May 83

[Report by Yo'el Dar]

[Text] Israeli Arabs have accepted with mixed feelings the agreement between Israel and Lebanon. Moderate circles regard the accord as a breakthrough which could lead to a comprehensive peace with the Arab world. The Qadi of 'Akko, Shaykh Muhammad Hubayshi, said the agreement is the best solution under the circumstances. He expressed hope that Jordan would be the next Arab country to sign a peace treaty with Israel.

Extremists, however, condemned the agreement, describing it as an American conspiracy against the Palestinian people.

Al-Ittihad, the organ of RAKAH, on Monday wrote that the speed with which the agreement was approved by the Knesset and the Lebanese parliament under American pressure indicated aggressive Israeli designs on Syria and the PLO.

The Druze community welcomed the agreement. Their spiritual leader, Shaykh Amin at-Tarif, said he and his community are ready to accept any agreement which protects the lives and the security of the Israeli people. At the same time, he urged the government to take efficient measures to preserve the rights of his co-religionists in the Shouf Mountains.

Shaykh (Labin Abu Rukun), the Druze Qadi, called on the government to set up a liaison office consisting of Israeli, Lebanese Druze, and IDF officers to examine the tense situation in the Ash-Shuf Hills. He said Israel could win the hearts of the Druze everywhere if it prevents the Phalangists from harassing their co-religionists in Lebanon.

Lebanon Warns Against Present Ash-Shuf Policy

TA190835 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 19 May 83 p 1

[Report by 'Oded Zaray]

[Excerpt] In conversations with their Israeli counterparts, senior Lebanese officials who participated in the negotiations warned that Israel could lose its friends, public support, and in the end weaken the Lebanese "national consensus" regarding the agreement if the current policy in the IDF-controlled areas in 'Alayh and the Ash-Shuf Hills continues. This policy, according to the officials, indirectly makes it possible for leftists — Junblatt's men — to threaten Beirut, to damage the central administration's "rescue" measures, and torpedo the agreement with Israel.

The officials, who quote military sources, say that for the first time the latest shelling of the eastern (Christian) quarters of Beirut and administration institutions from leftist positions in the 'Alayh regions achieved direct hits indicating "aiming by professionals who are not to be found among the Junblatt militia." The officials also point out that the Lebanese Administration is determined to stand up to the Arab pressure and threats against the background of signing the agreement with Israel, but the tangible, direct threat by Junblatt's men in the IDF zones of control is jeopardizing this stance.

Junblatt himself went to the Qubayyah region last night after coordinating talks with President al-Asad and PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat in Damascus, and announced the establishment of a "military and political opposition front, which will wipe out the agreement of disgrace and plotting with the Israeli enemy." In Qubayyah, which is in the Syrian-controlled area, Junblatt met with commanders of his forces who had come from 'Alayh and the Ash-Shuf region and informed them that, "the fight for Arab and socialist Lebanon is just beginning."

Press Comments on Post-Agreement Situation

Dailies Assess Syrian Position

TA190619 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 19 May 83

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpt] The independent *Ha'aretz* says that despite the signs of a toughening of the Syrian position, it would be wrong to conclude that Syria's president, Hafiz al-Asad, has decided to bring the Beirut government to its knees. Much depends on what the U.S. reaction will be, says the paper. Washington should make it clear to all concerned, including the Soviet Union, that the United States wants to complete the political process involved in Lebanon.

The English-language *The Jerusalem Post* talks of Syrian brinkmanship, and warns that the wisdom of brinkmanship is not to go over the brink, which might provoke a war that no one really wants. *The Post* says that the original mandate to invite Syrian troops to Lebanon by the Arab League is subject to the consent of the Lebanese Government for renewal. For Damascus to say now that it will not heed Beirut's request to withdraw its troops is a flagrant violation of the mandate. The United States, says *The Post, should see its influence with the Saudis to come down* from the fence on which they have been sitting to persuade Al-Asad that his playing with fire will not pay off.

More on Present Situation

TA190743 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 19 May 83

[Report by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel]

[Text] A new chapter of political activity is now opening, and at the very most Israel will play a minor role in it. While the United States and Lebanon try to remove the Syrian Army from Lebanon, Jerusalem will play the role of observer only, political circles have said. Israel will adopt a wait-and-see policy. It may help strengthen Major Sa'd Haddad's forces, and work to maintain the de facto normalization on the border with Lebanon, but

nothing more than that. How long will we wait? Official spokesmen in Jerusalem repeat: several weeks, and this period of time, as is known, is fairly flexible.

In the meantime, political attention is riveted on relations with the United States. On the eve of the holiday, a memorandum of understanding was signed in Jerusalem and Washington. The United States recognizes that the implementation of the accord with Lebanon depends on the withdrawal of the PLO and the Syrians. The United States also recognizes Israel's right to self-defense against terrorist actions from inside Lebanese territory. Indeed, there are those who interpret this recognition as permission to pursue terrorists beyond the northern border. George Shultz told Israel's minister plenipotentiary in Washington, Binyamin Netanyahu, that diplomacy and deterrence must now be combined with respect to the Syrians and the Soviets. Apparently that deterrence means supplying arms to Israel, and first of all lifting the suspension of the F-16 Jeal.

An official invitation is expected soon to Prime Minister Menahem Begin to come to Washington to meet with President Reagan, as well as a date for the visit, which has been delayed for many months.

Jerusalem also expects a parallel improvement in relations with Cairo. At the beginning of the week, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reported in a letter to his counterpart Kamil Hasan 'Ali on the agreement with Lebanon. Shamir wrote that he thought it proper and neighborly to supply details of the accord, and he expressed hope for an improvement soon in the area's atmosphere and for progress in the peace process.

Though the foreign minister did not say so explicity, between the lines of his diplomatic language he appeared to be saying that Israel now wants to see the Egyptian ambassador returned to Tel Aviv.

Ma'ariv Analyzes Agreement

TA171816 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 17 May 83 p 13

[Commentary by Moshe Zaq: "The Agreement"]

[Text] "Recognizing their right and obligation to live in peace with each other as well as with all the states, within secure and recognized boundaries; having agreed to declare the termination of the state of war between them; desiring to ensure lasting security for both their states; and to avoid threats and the use of force between them, the Government of the State of Israel and the Government of the Republic of Lebanon have agreed to the following provisions:

— "The parties agree and undertake to respect the sovereignty, political independence, and territorial integrity of each other. They consider the existing international boundary between Israel and Lebanon inviolable.

— "The parties confirm that the state of war between Israel and Lebanon has been terminated and no longer exists."

This is stated in the agreement endorsed by the Parliament in Beirut and the Knesset in Jerusalem. This is not the first agreement between Israel and Lebanon. There was the armistice agreement signed in Rosh Haniqra on 23 March 1949. However, that agreement did not even once mention the name of the State of Israel beside the names of the other signatories. The armistice agreement was signed "as a temporary means to ease the transition from the current truce to permanent peace in Eretz Yisra'el."

Moreover, it was explicitly stated in the armistice agreement that "both sides recognize that none of the terms of the agreement will under any circumstances predetermine the rights, demands, and positions of any of the sides in the final settlement of the question of Eretz Yisra'el through peaceful means at a time when the terms of this agreement are determined only by military considerations."

This as well, as other clauses in the armistice agreement, were especially formulated because the Arab countries abstained from recognizing the Israeli-Lebanese boundaries, although also in the 1948 war the IDF crossed the Lebanese border and occupied 11 villages in the south.

In all the armistice agreements, the Arab countries reiterated that that was not the final border. Some of them deep inside thought that Israel's border would be eliminated, and some dreamed about border amendments that would shrink Israel, but none of them recognized Israel's international border. Needless to say, none of them were ready to sign any political agreement with Israel. Lebanon is the second Arab country now to sign an agreement with Israel to stop the state of war.

When Israel asked for an Egyptian declaration about terminating the state of belligerency in exchange for the evacuation of the Sinai in 1975, the Egyptians argued — and were corroborated by Henry Kissinger — that there is no difference between peace and the termination of the state of belligerency and refused to issue such a declaration even in exchange for the return of the Abu Rudays springs and the Mitla and Jiddi passes. Needless to say, no other Arab country has to date agreed to sign an agreement declaring the termination of the state of belligerency with Israel.

When King 'Abdallah of Jordan initialled a 5-year nonaggression agreement with Israel, he was forced to go back on it in the wake of pressure exerted by the Arab countries. His capitulation to his enemies' pressure did not spare him from his assassins. However, it is an uncontradictable fact that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil agreed to sign an agreement to terminate the state of belligerency between Israel and Lebanon despite pressures by Damascus leaders and threats that a destiny more bitter than that of Anwar as-Sadat lies in store for him.

The agreement with Lebanon contains a new element which does not exist in the treaty with Egypt, although the latter is a peace treaty. The military appendix to the agreement stipulates that joint Israeli-Lebanese supervisory teams conduct joint patrols throughout the security zone in southern Lebanon.

Israel and Egypt deliberated on the issue of joint patrols for many weeks. The Egyptians were fearful "lest they are talked about"

in the Arab world, and opted for stationing UN observers or a multinational force to supervise the buffer zones between Israel and Egypt in the Sinai rather than use joint Israeli-Egyptian patrols. The Egyptians, who claim to be the leaders of the Arab world, were afraid of the reaction of the Arab world, but the Lebanese agreed to establish joint supervisory teams.

In exchange, however, Israel agreed that the Security Arrangements Committee assign "a joint supervisory team when requested to check border security arrangements on the Israeli side of the international boundary." This clause is meant to keep the balance between the two sides and to maintain equality between them, the key words being "when requested."

In any case, it is emphasized that the "joint supervisory teams will conduct daily verifications if necessary both day and night. Verifications will be carried out on the ground, at sea, and in the air."

We do not want to tire the reader with all the minute details about Israeli-Lebanese cooperation, regular contacts between the Lebanese Navy's Southern Command and the Israeli Navy, and about the Security Arrangements Supervision Centers which will be established in the security zone, whose purpose will also be to "serve as a center of communications connected to the Joint Supervisory Teams and appropriate headquarters" and to "receive, analyze, and process all information necessary for the function of the Joint Supervisory Teams, on behalf of the Security Arrangements Committee." These centers are by way of laying the infrastructure for broader cooperation. There will be no separation such as the multinational force between us and the Egyptians in the Sinai. Instead, there will be cooperation which may yet grow and expand. Everything depends on international circumstances as well as on the ingeniousness of the Israeli officers who will be in charge of the region.

The agreement includes many promises that have aroused doubts among its Israeli opponents who have yet to make up their minds whether it is better to hold onto a large security zone in Lebanon, or reach another political agreement with a neighboring Arab country.

As far as the Galilee inhabitants are concerned, a larger security zone would probably be better. However, the fact is that the range of missiles continues to grow, and no security zone whatsoever can provide full security to Israel everywhere and at all times.

Even while we are deployed in the security zone, hostile terrorist activities continue in southern Lebanon, and there have even been attempts to set up Katyusha launchers to open fire on the Galilee. The IDF prevented this disaster but there is no guarantee whatsoever that terrorist attacks will not occur on our border even while we remain in southern Lebanon. The terrorists fail 100 times but they may succeed just once; we only remember that "one" occasion.

Had the "Peace for Galilee Operation" been restricted to the initial 45 km, we would probably not been witnessing a change in the Lebanese Government. A pro-Syrian Government overseen by a pro-Syrian president would probably be sitting in Beirut, and we would not be signing an agreement with the Lebanese Government, a government which would have been receiving orders from Damascus.

However, since things turned out the way they did in the war, the B'abda Palace ruled by Amin al-Jumayyil has dared to sign an agreement with Israel, thus disobeying Damascus' orders. To enable that government to tell the Syrians to take their army out of Lebanon, Israel was compelled to agree to pull out the IDF.

We had to give Amin al-Jumayyil credit so that the other Arab countries could support him, and so that they could regard his government as a sovereign one, since it is in our interest that Al-Jumayyil should order the signing of an agreement with Israel which receives the support of the Arab countries. This is by way of a breakthrough as far as peace in the Middle East is concerned.

The agreement constitutes an a posteriori endorsement of the political line of "Camp David" which was based on concessions of real assets in exchange for political recognition.

A country that is subject to siege for many years develops sensitivities related to a state of war. That is why it was so difficult for us to see the beginning of As-Sadat's course in the interim agreement which was merely a corridor to the peace treaty.

Even after the peace treaty was signed, it has been difficult for many in our midst to rid themselves of past suspicions, and perhaps it is better that way since we were taken by surprise in the Yom Kippur war 10 years ago.

The inhabitants of the Galilee who suffered sleepless nights during Katyusha attacks will probably find it hard to approve of the military appendices which limit the number of Israeli soldiers in the joint teams that are to patrol the security strip in southern Lebanon. They are not to be blamed for this, and it is good that they are demanding extreme alertness from the authorities, that they should not agree to the "small print" in the agreements.

These demands can spur on the Government of Israel not to rest on the laurels of the agreement, but to invest an effort in the development of the infrastructure that has been established for cooperation between the armies of Lebanon and Israel in southern Lebanon.

The main criticism of the agreement is over the meaning of: "The Lebanese authorities will take special security measures aimed at detecting and preventing hostile activities, as well as the introduction into or movement through the security region of unauthorized armed men or military equipment."

Are the "Lebanese authorities" capable of carrying out this mission? The critics are wondering, and their doubts are justified. There are as yet no "Lebanese authorities" capable of keeping this promise. However, because of this Joint Supervisory Teams agreement, Israel will be able to help them as much as is required.

Israel committed itself in the agreement to refrain from intervention in Lebanon's domestic or foreign affairs. And, to be more

precise, the promise is not one-sided. Lebanon has also committed itself to this, and this is how it is phrased in the agreement:

"Without prejudice to the inherent right of self-defense in accordance with international law, each party will refrain:

"A. From organizing, instigating, assisting, or participating in threats or acts of belligerency, subversion, or incitement or any aggression directed against the other party, its population or territory, both within its territory and originating therefrom, or in the territory of the other party.

"B. From using the territory of the other party for conducting a military attack against the territory of a third state.

"C. From intervening in the internal or external affairs of the other party."

Whoever fears that these clauses limit Israel's maneuvering ability, its reaction ability, in the event of the Lebanese authorities not being able to prevent a renewal of the terrorist infrastructure in southern Lebanon, ought not to ignore the phrase "without prejudice to the inherent right of self-defense." This phrase was not introduced into the agreement by chance, since there is an American explanation of it regarding the U.S. position on the join supervisory committee, and when Israel is forced to react because of the weakness of the Lebanese Government.

Let us say that those who signed the agreement certainly recognized the objective limitations of the Al-Jumayyil administration, and they did not put the entire onus on the supervisory teams or on the Government of Lebanon. The supervisory teams should be regarded not as a deterrent force, but as a means to provide an early warning of danger in southern Lebanon.

There is no doubt that the Damascus government has much greater power than the government of Beirut. When the Syrian Government, in the disengagement agreement of May 1974, promised Henry Kissinger it would prevent PLO terrorist activity from its territory in the Golan Heights, it kept its promise. Every year, at the end of May (the eve of the Security Council debate about extending the UN force's mandate in the Golan Heights), it just increases the tension on the border, but this is in accordance with the accepted rules of the game. It also kept to the rules in the agreement for a "red line" in Lebanon and did not violate it until the balance of forces inside Lebanon was disrupted, and Israel was then accused by Syria of too much meddling in Beirut, which is beyond the red line.

It is no secret that there were people in the Government of Israel and among the public who believed that an agreement with Syria would be preferable to one with Lebanon. The Americans even suspected Israel of aiming at such an arrangement with Damascus, and even spread rumors against the previous defense minister that he had met with Haddam al-Asad, the Damascus ruler's brother. Those rumors aroused suspicions in Beirut and made the negotiations with Lebanon more difficult.

To tell the truth, the prime minister, as early as the beginning of the war, completely denied any hint of a proposal for a possible arrangement with Syria, with one answer: "They will yet accuse us of having gone to war in Lebanon to conquer territory, but the 'Peace for Galilee' campaign is a war of defense." And an agreement with Lebanon could not have been achieved without the support of the Americans, for better or worse. Amin al-Jumayyil relies on the Americans, and he is even ready to jeopardize himself when confronted with Syria's threats and sign the agreement with Israel, as long as he is sure that the Americans will support him.

And, after all, As-Sadat also came to Jerusalem not just for peace with Jerusalem, but also because he was sure that in that way he would receive the U.S. weapons reserves he so desired. Therefore, the Al-Jumayyil administration's weakness and its theoretical inability to fulfill the clauses of the agreement are not the only standard by which to evaluate the agreement. Its importance lies first and foremost in the U.S. support for Amin al-Jumayyil's signing of an agreement with Israel, despite the pressure of Syria and the Soviet Union.

The United States is helping Israel in order to set a new "red line" in Lebanon between it and the Soviets deployed in the Al-Biqa' region. Without the Israeli pressure, the United States would not have achieved this, and would not have been forced to take such a position behind Amin al-Jumayyil after having lost a previous campaign of influence in Amman because of Soviet pressure. King Husayn became frightened after Andropov's warnings and the 'Arafat "no" that had been coordinated with Al-Asad, and in fact did not reply to President Reagan's invitation to open negotiations with Israel.

Husayn the brave did not dare, while Amin al-Jumayyil did dare. He relied upon the United States.

Coincidence or not, the agreement between Israel and Lebanon was signed, on the day the Geneva talks between the United States and the Soviet Union on limiting nuclear arms in Europe were being resumed. The Soviets want the assessment of the strategic balance to include the missiles of France and Britain, not only those of the two superpowers.

The interbloc deliberations on missiles in Europe include talk about nuclear weapons, while in the Middle East, about which the superpowers have not yet begun to hold discussions, the conventional missiles have already appeared.

Against the Soviet missile system in Syria, the United States is now placing a ring of political agreements in the Middle East whose purpose is to curb the spread of Soviet influence in the area. Israel's agreement to withdraw from Lebanon will now make it possible for the United States to unite all the Arab countries in a demand that Syria also withdraw from Lebanon. Therefore, the United States is not conducting negotiations with Syria, but with the Government of Lebanon, and it is the Government of Lebanon that is soliciting the support of the Arab world for its demand for the liberation of its country from foreign armies.

Of course the Soviet Government, which is not frightened of the pressure of the entire world against its invasion of Afghanistan, will not be frightened by the demand for the evacuation of the Syrian Army from Lebanon. But it seems that the United States

believes that in this situation of an Israeli-Lebanese agreement — and of the Arab countries' standing behind Lebanon — it has a better chance in its bargaining with the Soviet Union.

If the United States had talked with the Soviet Union from the beginning, it would have opened with an inferior position — Soviet missiles in Syria and an Israeli- U.S. dispute over Lebanon — that would also have been a weak position. Therefore George Shultz, the U.S. secretary of state, threw all his weight into an immediate agreement with Lebanon. By virtue of this agreement, the U.S. bargaining position with the Soviet Union will be strengthened. And since this is so, Amin al-Jumayyil can sign a political agreement with Israel, which is arousing anger in Damascus, because it also says in it:

"Each party will prevent entry into, or deployment in, or passage through its territory, its airspace and, subject to the right of innocent passage in accordance with international law, its territorial sea, by military forces, armament, or military equipment of any state hostile to the other party." In other words, the Government of Lebanon has committed itself to also prevent the passage of the Syrian Army and Syrian warplanes through its territory, or any other country with whom Israel has no diplomatic relations as explained in an annex.

And the main point, from the security aspect of the agreement, is: "Paragraph 3.G: In order to prevent incidents and to facilitate coordination between the forces on the terrain, 'practical and rapid contacts' will include direct radio and telephone communications between the respective military commanders and their staffs in the immediate border regions, as well as direct face-to-face consultations."

That is the situation that in fact existed before the "Cairo agreement" between Lebanon and the PLO deployment in southern Lebanon, and it is now returned to what it was before in a signed agreement [last two words in boldface]between Israel and Lebanon.

New Plan Submitted on Curbing West Bank Rioters

TA182023 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi and the commander of the Central Command, Ori Or, recommend that the government amend a code so that it will be possible to deport rioters from the territories. This recommendation is included in a report that the two have submitted to Defense Minister Moshe Arens. Arens intends to deal with breaches of the peace in Judaea and Samaria firmly. Our military correspondent has some first details about the report:

[Scemama] What emerges from the report by these two is that a clear policy for the military government in Judaea and Samaria must be decided once and for all. In the report, Lt Gen Levi and Maj Gen Or do not recommend imposing Israeli law on Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District, but they do recommend to the defense minister that the government should make several decisions that will be anchored by codes, and that will facilitate the security forces' activity in the territories against rioters.

The main recommendation by the chief of staff and the commander of the Central Command is that the government make a decision and amend a code so that it will be possible to deport rioters from the territories. In the opinion of the authors of the recommendation, the punishment of expulsion is the most efficient punishment, and it is this that will deter rioters and calm down tempers. According to them, if the government makes such a decision, the High Court of Justice will not be able to stop the expulsion of Arabs from the territories.

Here are some other recommendations: Lt Gen Levi and Maj Gen Or recommend that the police codes in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza be greatly expanded and all the border guards be transferred from the Israeli ports to Judaea and Samaria. According to the authors of the report, the number of codes of the attorney general's office should also be increased, because the codes of both the police and the attorney general's office staff were laid down in 1967 immediately after the 6-day war, and they do not answer today's needs.

Officers in the defense establishment are saying that Police Commissioner 'Ivtzan is not prepared, for reasons he is keeping to himself, to invest efforts and help the IDF impose order on the territories. The report's authors also recommend to the defense minister that actions be taken so that the rioters who are captured and not deported will be given a deterrent punishment. Senior officers have told us that the courts are in the habit of imposing fines on the rioters. The rioters pay, go to PLO members in the territories, and the latter return their money to them.

Today, the defense minister's adviser on communications affairs said, in reaction to these this, that in the near future the defense minister will place emphasis on dealing with the territories.

The minister will decide which of the report's recommendations he accepts, and he will place them on the Cabinet table. Until then, it is not inconceivable that the man who is today in charge of policy in the territories, Rehavya Vardi, who was appointed to the post by Minister Sharon, will soon be replaced. One can see a hint of this in the defense minister's proposal to appoint to this post the coordinator of activities in the territories, Major General Yehoshu'a Sagi.

Anti-Demonstration Vehicle Developed

TA190753 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 19 May 83

[Text] A sophisticated command car to be used to help disperse demonstrations has recently been developed by the Nazareth vehicle industries plant, the *Bamahane* weekly has reported. The command car contains many improvements designed to adapt it for dispersing demonstrations: a special television camera that will make it possible to film rioters so that they can later be identified; a suction hose connected to two tanks that will enable a jet of water or tear gas to be sprayed for four solid minutes; and two fire-extinguishing systems for overcoming burning roadblocks. The driver's compartment is protected by armored windshields to shield those sitting inside from stone-throwing.

Pollsters Note Declining Support for Cabinet
TA171506 Tel Aviv Davar in Hebrew 17 May 83 p 13

[Analysis by Rafi and Hanokh Smith]

[Excerpt] In our earlier analysis, we showed that the difference in the Jewish vote for the coalition versus the opposition dropped from 12 percent, compared with the results of the June 1981 elections (56 percent to the coalition and 44 percent to the opposition) to 9 percent as the April-May 1983 Smith Institute poll indicates (51 percent to the coalition, 42 to the opposition plus 7 percent undecided). Compared to the findings of the October 1982 poll, the gap narrowed by 9 percent.

We must examine the causes for this narrowing. In the earlier article, we proved that the public showed less support for the Cabinet's handling of security and economic matters compared to the October 1982 poll, but had greater support for it in the realms of social and foreign affairs matters. The Lebanese war is at the center of the security issue. In the following table we will see that the poll indicates a change in the degree of satisfaction the public has shown, compared with the October poll, in answering the following question: "Are you generally pleased or displeased with the Cabinet's handling of the Lebanese issue?" The responses (in percentage) follow:

	Apr-May 1983 poll	Oct 1982 poll
Satisfied	29	40
Not so satisfied	26	22
No opinion [as published]	40	32
Undecided	5	6

The percentage of Jewish people who in the last poll expressed satisfaction with the Cabinet's handling of the Lebanese affair was 29 percent, compared to the 40 percent who said so in October 1982 — a drop of 11 percent. The percentage of those dissatisfied grew from 32 to 40 percent [as published]. These are very significant changes.

The shifts are even greater than the figures in the table show. From among the Alignment supporters in the October poll, only 5 percent were satisfied, whereas 73 were not satisfied with the way the Cabinet handled the Lebanese issue, and the findings of the April-May poll are actually identical. On the other hand, a change has been marked among the Likud supporters. Thus the rate of those satisfied, which registered 71 percent in October, dropped in April-May to 55, while the rate of dissatisfied supporters grew from 5 percent (in October) to 11 percent in April-May. The data therefore shows that most of the Likud supporters are satisfied with the Cabinet, and only a small fraction said they were not.

Let us now consider the drop we found in the percentage of citizens who said the Cabinet succeeded, or largely succeeded in handling security matters. There the drop is from 64 percent (in October) to 55 percent (in April-May).

Yet the subject has additional angles. Since the security and foreign issues are closely related, despite the drop in the evaluation of the Cabinet in connection with handling security matters, we found an increase compared to the October poll in the percentage of those who believe the Cabinet is successful — or largely successful — in handling foreign affairs, going up from 33 percent (in October) to 38 percent (in April-May). As we shall see later, the people conducting the foreign and defense policy — Prime Minister Menahem Begin, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, and Defense Minister Moshe Arens — are very popular among the Jewish Israeli public.

In reply to the question of whether they agreed or disagreed with the policy and actions the Cabinet is currently employing regarding the new settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza, 50 percent of the interviewees said they agreed with the Cabinet, 19 did not quite agree with it, 28 did not agree, and the remaining 3 percent did not express a view. In other words, about half the Jewish population accepts the government's settlement policy, one-fifth object (though not strongly), and 28 percent explicitly disagree with it. From among the Likud supporters, 77 percent support the Cabinet and 8 absolutely do not. From among the Alignment supporters — 18 supported the Cabinet and 54 not at all. Compared with the results of the October poll, these changes are very slim. Thus we find polarity between the supporters of the Cabinet and the opposition on this.

We got a similar breakdown when we asked about the Cabinet's policy toward the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. The April-May poll showed that 48 percent are in accord with the government, 20 percent did not quite agree with it, 25 did not accept its policy, and 7 percent did not express any view. Among Likud supporters, 71 percent supported it, 13 not quite, and 10 percent firmly objected to it. Among Alignment supporters, 25 percent expressed support for it, 24 did not express firm support for it and rather objected, and 46 percent did not accept it.

As we have already seen, on the question regarding the new settlements, the support of coalition supporters for the Cabinet's policy is more enthusiastic and stronger than the opposition supporters' objection. In the final analysis, the data shows distinct polarity with regard to agreement with the Cabinet's policy between the supporters of the coalition and the opposition.

Regarding acceptance of the Cabinet's position on President Reagan's initiative, the gap between coalition and opposition supporters grows smaller, but still remains. Some 55 percent of the people interviewed accept the Cabinet's view on this, 20 do not quite agree with it, 13 definitely do not, and 12 percent did not express an opinion. From among the Likud supporters, 72 percent endorsed the Cabinet's policy, whereas among the Alignment supporters the rate was 37 percent. Some 22 percent of the Alignment supporters defintely did not agree with it, which is a relatively low level.

Compared with the October 1982 poll, the changes regarding these three questions are minimal. On the issue of the new settlements, in October 1982, some 49 percent endorsed the government's policy (and 50 percent did in April-May); 46 percent accepted the Cabinet's policy regarding the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza (and 48 percent did in April-May),

and 53 percent accepted the Cabinet's opposition to the Reagan initiative (compared to 55 percent in April-May). Statistically speaking, these differences are insignificant. In other words, no changes have been marked in public opinion on the new settlements, the policy toward the Arabs of the Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza or the opposition to President Reagan's initiative. The polarity in public opinion remained as we have seen in the past.

Despite the growing unrest in the public regarding events in Lebanon, no changes have occurred in other foreign and defense issues. Thus, it seems as though the changes in the public's opinion which affected the support for the Cabinet by way of a drop did not really result from these subject areas.

OAU's Kodjo on Need for Understanding on Summit
AB161056 Libreville Africa No 1 in French 0630 GMT 16 May 83

[Text] Central African ministers and some African personalities are participating today in the constituent ministerial meeting of the Economic Community of Central African States, CEEAC, in Libreville, Gabon. This is the next to the last meeting to be held prior to that of central African heads of state which will take place at the end of the year. This meeting will be attended by all countries concerned, the executive secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, Adebayo Adedeje, and OAU Secretary General Edem Kodjo, who stressed the importance of this community to central African states at the subregional level to John Lesetu m Muborou.

On the issue of the OAU, Edem Kodjo talked about the chances of the Addis Ababa summit which will be held from 6 to 11 June. Here is the OAU secretary general.

[Begin Kodjo recording] It is difficult to describe in a very precise manner the chances of the summit being held. What is certain is that, indeed, the summit was and is scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa from 6 to 11 June as you just stressed. The setting of this date was done during the two meetings of the Committee of 12 heads of state and governments which, after the two fruitless attempts at Tripoli I and Tripoli Ii, was charged with examining the ways and means of convening a summit. If today a number of member states express the will and desire to see the summit postponed, I think our member countries have the absolute sovereign right to do it and no one could blame them. If, by examining our conscience and considering the various developments and the state of seriousness of the problems we are acquainted with, the superior interest of our organization calls for the postponement of the summit, I believe that no one can blame them for this fact.

On the other hand, in my view what should be done is that it is imperative to communicate the desire and will expressed by a certain number of states for the postponement of the summit to President Daniel arap Moi, the current OAU chairman, who in turn will no doubt consult with his 11 colleagues of the committee that has been established in order to review what measures it is necessary to take.

What I am saying here is a pressing appeal that we should not go to Addis Ababa to experience the same scenes we had in Tripoli I and Tripoli I. I, for one, am of the opinion that within the coming 10 days we must have a clear understanding on the convening or otherwise of the summit. [end recording]

ALGERIA

Algeria-Tunisia Pumping Station Inaugurated

LD181954 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 May 83

[Excerpts] The most prominent event of the day in Tunisia was the inauguration of the Algerian station pumping gas to Italy across Tunisian territory. President Habib Bourguiba, Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and Italian President Sandro Pertini attended the ceremony in Haouaria. Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and his accompanying delegation left Tunis for Algiers at 1420 today.

Italian President Sandro Pertini and his accompanying delegation Left Tunis at 1445 today.

Ash-Sha'b Criticizes Lebanese-Israeli Agreement

PM161009 Algiers Ash-Sha'b in Arabic 8 May 83 p 5

[A. Murabit article: "Another Face of the Camp David Agreement"]

[Text] The latest significant development in the Middle East is the Zionist approval, in principle, of the draft agreement produced by the U.S. secretary of state's 10-day shuttle between Beirut and occupied Jerusalem.

A simple reading of the draft agreement, as published by the Lebanese press, would show that the Zionist entity has not dropped its demands and that the draft agreement in fact gives it numerous gains allowing it a limited military presence in southern Lebanon. Israel asked for participation by Israeli forces in the observation committees in the south. It also wanted an Israeli liaison office in Lebanon and it wanted the future of its agent Sa'd Haddad guaranteed. The draft agreement clearly meets all these demands.

This confirms that the U.S. side really played an effective part in exploiting Lebanon's circumstances, in putting pressure on it and shackling it with U.S.-Zionist terms. This happened despite the fact that the Lebanese authorities frequently and emphatically said that they would reject any U.S. or Zionist proposal prejudicial to Lebanon's sovereignty, dignity, and independence.

In addition to the guarantees clearly stated in the draft agreement, Washington has given Israel other secret guarantees in return for its approval of the Shultz plan. According to informed sources, in return for its approval of the draft agreement Shultz gave Israel military guarantees of protection for what it calls "its northern borders." These are security guarantees constituting part of the essence of the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance.

Of these security guarantees, the following are the most important: The United States will store in Israel equipment necessary for the Rapid Deployment Force [RDF] to enable the force to deal with any "threat to Israel." The Zionist air force will help in the protection of the RDF transport planes as they enter the region's space. The U.S. Air Force will give the Zionist entity 150 F-15 and F-16 aircraft.

Despite these guarantees, which are a manifestation of the Tel Aviv-Washington strategic alliance and which increase the Zionist entity's "aggressive capabilities," that Zionist entity is still seeking what they call "additional clarifications" regarding certain political and security issues.

The fact is that the Zionist dissatisfaction with all these guarantees is just a part of the plan drawn up by Shultz and the Zionist entity, which did not hesitate to use the agent Sa'd Haddad card and to link the Zionist withdrawal to Syrian withdrawal and to normalization of economic and political relations.

The Zionist entity is thus strengthening its position in Lebanon, and so begins the scenario with which the Zionist government is trying, under U.S. supervision, to justify the Zionist presence in Lebanon and to hold Syria responsible for the deterioration of the security situation in Lebanon and the region.

The U.S. approval of the draft agreement means many more negotiating sessions and Lebanese concessions because of Lebanon's weak negotiating position and U.S.-Zionist pressure.

The recent draft agreement is therefore another face of the Camp David agreement and another link in the U.S.-Zionist chain of plots to single out the states of the region and subject them to all kinds of pressures until the chain is complete and until the U.S.-Zionist alliance and presence are assured.

LIBYA

Sandinist Front Delegation Arrives on Visit

LD180928 Tripoli JANA in English 0825 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Tripoli, Shaban 5, May 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Mr. Carlos Munez member of the National Command of the Sandinista Front in Nicaragua arrived here yesterday accompanied by a large delegation on a visit to the Jamahiriyah within the framework of enhancing the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Jamahiriyah and Nicaragua.

MAURITANIA

Source Says Inter-Maghreb Summit Near

PM181505 Riyadh Al-Jazirah in Arabic 15 May 83 pp 1, 30

[Unattributed report: "Mauritanian Source Tells *Al-Jazirah*: We held fruitful talks with Morocco, and a Moroccan-Algerian-Mauritanian summit is to be held soon."]

[Text] Algiers — A Mauritanian official has confirmed to *Al-Jazirah* that contacts have already been held and are still continuing between Morocco and Mauritania regarding the question of holding a summit conference between King Hassan

II of Morocco and President Ould Haydallah of Mauritania within the context of the meetings held between Arab Maghreb leaders on the basis of the political realities with a view to promoting more accord and cooperation between these states along the road to Greater Arab Maghreb.

The Mauritanian official revealed that secret contacts were held through envoys from both countries and through the ambassadors of the two countries in European capitals, especially Madrid, before the Moroccan-Algerian summit conference held on 26 February on the borders.

Asked about the possible date of the Moroccan-Mauritanian summit conference, the Mauritanian official said that the conference was supposed to be held months ago which means that it is now linked to the results of the Algerian-Moroccan summit.

The Mauritanian official did not rule out the possibility of a summit conference in the coming period attended by King Hassan II, President Chadli Bendjedid, and Mauritanian President Ould Haydallah to clear up the atmosphere and iron out the difficulties which prevent the intensification of consultations and contacts among all the Maghreb states.

He noted that the circumstances are now ripe for the Arab Maghreb states to adopt closer attitudes toward Arab Maghreb relations and toward the OAU to spare it the dangers of subservience and division.

Officials Hold Talks With Visiting Libyan

LD182342 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] In Nouakchott this morning Colonel Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, prime minister and minister of national defense, received 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. This meeting was also attended by Major Ahmed Ould Minnih, member of the Military Committee for National Salvation and minister for foreign affairs and cooperation.

At the end of the meeting 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi told the radio reporter that he had handed the prime minister a message from Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi for the head of state, Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Haydala.

This morning the Libyan guest conducted a round of talks with Maj Ahmed Ould Minnih before his departure for home.

SUDAN

President Numayri Statement on Lebanon Agreement

JN181806 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Khartoum, 18 May (SUNA) — Leader President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has made a statement to SUNA on the signing of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement regarding the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon. The agreement, to which Morris Draper, assistant U.S. secretary of state, was a witness, was signed yesterday.

The president said: The Democratic Republic of Sudan has been observing the situation in fraternal Lebanon since the start of the deteriorating security situation, from the premise of a principled stand which takes into consideration Lebanon's circumstances and the presence of the Palestinian brothers on its territory — a stand which emphasizes the need to preserve Lebanon's entity, unity, independence, and natural right to impose its sovereignty over all of its territory. This stand also emphasizes the need to adhere to the unity of its sons, irrespective of their beliefs, to confront the dangers threatening Lebanon.

The president said: From this premise, Sudan played a positive role along with its Arab sisters to restore security and stability to Lebanese territory. Thus, Sudan joined the ADF, into which the Syrian regime thrust scores of thousands of its forces, using them as a tool to settle accounts with the PLO on the one hand and with Lebanese factions on the other. This forced several participant Arab countries, including Sudan, to withdraw their forces from Lebanon, leaving the Syrian forces alone to practice the ugliest forms of terrorism, piracy, and blackmail, with all that this entailed.

The president added: Sudan has warned several times, out of commitment to its principled stand, of the deviation of the Syrian forces from their task in Lebanon. Sudan worked hard to remove the effects of the schemes against Lebanon by supporting legitimate Lebanese governments and by backing the Arab efforts to rescue Lebanon from the dangers resulting from the Syrian regime's bargaining and maneuvering. The Syrian regime continued its tyranny even during the Israeli enemy's invasion of southern Lebanon, the Israeli siege of the Palestinian resistance heroes in Beirut itself, and the shelling of Palestinian civilian refugee camps which led to the fall of thousands of Lebanese and Palestinian victims a stone's throw away from the Syrian forces' positions. These positions remained silent in suspect conspiracy against the sons of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. This conspiracy turned Lebanon into a land swarming with the Israeli enemy's soldiers while the Syrian forces in the Al-Biqa' and parts of northern Lebanon continued to assume the same suspect and even colluding silence.

The president said: Fraternal Lebanon has transcended its wounds, its victims, and the destruction of most of its villages and cities. Its legitimate government endeavored, with intensive Arab and international effort, to restore peace and stability to Lebanon. Thus, the Lebanese-Israeli agreement was reached with the efforts of the United States. This agreement stipulates respect for Lebanon's authority, political independence, and territorial integrity and safety. It also calls for withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon within an 8-12 week period. This falls within the framework of realizing Lebanon's aim to achieve the withdrawal of all foreign forces from its territory, and is in accordance with its government's request for the deployment of international forces on its territory to help it reinforce its authority.

The president added: The agreement was well received by the Lebanese people. Lebanon's Muslim, Christian, Shi'ite, and Druze sons welcomed it because it achieves, for the first time in 8 years, security, and stability in Lebanon. The Syrian regime, however, realized that the agreement would be a great obstacle to its colonialist schemes in Lebanon and hence rejected it. This means that the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon, the Israeli and Syrian forces, will be hampered. Thus, by insisting on not withdrawing its forces from Lebanon and by announcing this in Damascus, the Syrian regime gives Israel an excuse to keep its forces in Lebanon.

The Syrian president has promised in his numerous talks with Arab leaders and in his statements that he would withdraw if the Lebanese Government requests it. The Lebanese Government requested this and confirmed its request by signing the agreement, which would have been further strengthened had Syria abandoned its intransigence, ceased its ambitions in Lebanon, and cooperated.

Declaring Sudan's position, his excellency said: The Democratic Republic of Sudan, while observing the developments in the issue from a premise that takes into consideration Lebanon's integrity, independence, unity, and the right of its legitimate government to have full sovereignty over its territory, announces its support for His Excellency Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, his government, and his people in their arduous, sincere efforts to restore peace to Lebanon and to achieve reconciliation among its sons. These efforts were unanimously supported yesterday by the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies as it endorsed the agreement on the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon.

His excellency said: While announcing this support, Sudan has received with pleasure news of the support of fraternal Arab countries, foremost among them Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and the UAE, as well as other Arab sisters. This was pointed out during the press conference held in Abu Dhabi by the Lebanese minister of economy. These Arab countries strongly support Lebanon's unanimity and determination to carry out the agreement and establish peace.

Sudan seizes this opportunity to recall what the Syrian regime announced upon signing the disengagement agreement with Israel in May 1974. The Syrian regime said at the time: What we signed today is not a peace treaty, but a step toward a just and permanent peace. The Syrian regime is denying Lebanon this right now and is planning a conspiracy to harm its security, its stability, and the reconciliation among its sons.

His excellency concluded his statement by saying: Sudan appeals to the PLO, its Arab brothers, and world public opinion to stand by Lebanon at this crucial stage when it is trying to establish peace, to end guardianship over its will, and to rebuild itself, the Arab oasis of prosperity and tranquillity, asking God Almighty for success and good fortune.

Vice President At-Tayyib Confirms Country 'Stable'

JN181846 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1830 GMT 18 May 83

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 18 May (SUNA) — First Vice President Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib this morning presided over an ordinary Cabinet session. At the beginning of the session, the first vice president submitted a detailed report on the security situation in the country and confirmed that it is stable.

ETHIOPIA

COPWE Signs Cooperation Accord with Vietnam CP

EA181614 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 17 May 83

[Text] A 3-year cooperation agreement has been signed by the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] and COPWE. In a ceremony held at the COPWE Central Committee office, Comrade Fasika Tidelel, COPWE Central Committee member and acting head of the COPWE Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and Comrade (Tran Quoc Hoan), secretary of the CPV, signed the agreement.

The agreement provides for the exchange of experience through exchanges of delegates, the further strengthening of relations between the CPV and COPWE and between the peoples and mass organizations of the two countries, and the establishing of a coordinated work system.

KENYA

Ministers Support President's Call for Elections

EA181041 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 18 May 83

[Excerpt] President Moi's announcement of general elections to be held in September this year has been hailed by the vice president, Mr Mwai Kibaki, and several other leaders.

Mr Kibaki said the decision taken by the KANU Governing Council was the best because it gave power to the people. He said that as one of the architects of the Kenyan Constitution, he will defend it wholeheartedly. Mr Kibaki was speaking to KNA soon after the KANU Governing Council meeting and was accompanied by the acting KANU chairman, Kiambu branch, Mr Gatuguta, among others.

The minister for tourism and wildlife, Mr Elijah Mwangale, said he was happy with the resolution, while the minister for indistry, Mr Omanga, said he was delighted with President Moi's decision. THE minister for lands, settlement, and physical Planning, Mr G.G. Kariuki, also said he was satisfied with the decision. The minister for basic education, Professor Ngeno, reaffirmed that he fully supported the president's decision because he believes the president had the mandate to do what would benefit the country even if it meant detention and sacking some ministers from the Cabinet.

Supporting President Moi's action, an assistant minister for labor, Mr Sharif Nassir, called for thorough scrutiny of people seeking to be elected on the Kanu ticket. Mr Nassir said the party was not a church where anyone from anywhere entered at will. The assistant minister called for prompt action against anybody found frustrating the president's efforts.

An assistant minister for economic development, Mr Martin Shikuku, said he had supported the decision that parliamentary elections be held earlier so that anti-nyayo [footsteps of Jomo Kenyatta] members would be checked in good time. He cautioned Wananchi not to elect people who might not have their interests at heart.

Daily Nation Lists Restrictions on Diplomats' Travel

EA181032 Nairobi Daily Nation in English 18 May 83 p 1

[By Peter Kareithi]

[Excerpt] All foreign diplomats accredited to Kenya will from now on need clearance from the office of the president before they can travel to Kenyan rural areas.

This decision was reached at the KANU National Governing Council meeting chaired by President Moi at parliament buildings yesterday.

The meeting also agreed that civilians should no longer be allowed into Armed Forces messes.

According to sources within the Governing Council, the decision on diplomats resulted from the recent revelations that some foreign countries were plotting to overthrow President Moi and install another leader.

Sources at the office of the president who confirmed the directive said it was nothing new. They said the directive has always been there, but some diplomats have often tended to ignore it.

Western diplomatic sources, however, said that the rule on clearance has always only applied to diplomats from communist countries. According to a source in the office of the president, however, the directive will now be rigorously enforced to cover all diplomats accredited to the country.

At yesterday's meeting, it had been expected that President Noil would disclose the identity of the man being groomed for leadership by foreign powers. But at the end of the 45 minute-long meeting, the traitor remained unknown.

Newspapers Confident of Moi Election Success

Daily Nation **18 May**

EA181202 Nairobi Daily Nation in English 18 May 83 p 6

[Editorial: "Oust the 'Komerera' and Forward We Go"]

[Text] It could be said that the most significant thing to have emerged yesterday from the emergency meeting of the KANU Governing Council was the declaration of a general election in September. In this, President Moi received the support of the council.

As a result of the build-up of the traitor affair, some leaders are tainted. There will be many politicians and Wananchi who will be disappointed that the traitor and his associates were not named yesterday.

As President Moi has pointed out some of the guilty men have consorted with foreign powers in hatching their conspiracy.

Lamentably, their actions have led to a degree of destabilisation of the existing government. With this in mind, the president's continued high performance in the next few months will be crucial to Kenya's wellbeing in both the short and long term.

President Moi's action yesterday took courage. He realises, of course, that in the current situation democratic principles dictate that members of parliament must now go back to the people for affirmation or otherwise of popular support.

The general election will inevitably pit against each other the different factions that go to make up KANU. This is healthy in a one-party state. It is only through the struggles of the factions that hidden political problems in the system are revealed. This is precisely what has just taken place. Over the past two weeks the electorate has witnessed a spectacle as some leaders have settled old and new scores.

No doubt among the performers who have had much to say publicly are some who themselves are traitors. Cunningly, they have used the situation to malign others. It's known as jumping on the bandwagon to make a quick kill. It is to be deplored of course.

Unfortunately in doing this they have cheapened the political process. On the other hand, they have revealed themselves as being unfit for public office which, in the long run, is a good thing for the nation. Morality aside, we expect our national leaders to support President Moi until such time that the electorate decides otherwise, if that is to be.

Yesterday the traitors, whoever they are, were told bluntly by KANU representatives that the electorate continues to support President Moi. We believe the traitors will get the same message when the country goes to the polls in September.

We forecast that not only will Moi continue to be president but that he will gather around him a strong, untainted team. This time, it is to be hoped, the Komerera [Kikuyu expression for fifth columnists during Mau Mau period] will not get a look in. We dont need to be reminded that the Komerera in Mau Mau times only pretended to be a part of the national struggle. In other words they were bogus. And in our book they remain bogus. They must be outlawed.

For us all to play our part effectively, we must be informed before September of the details of the evil the Komerera have been involved in this time. The electorate deserves that much.

The Wananchi must be told of the maladministration, the misuse of funds, the abuses of public office, the conspiracy with foreigners. And, of course, who the guilty people are.

We must never again have prominent people in public office who far from working for our collective welfare are in fact lining their own pockets and selling Kenya down the river.

We have already been given hope through President Moi's assurance that he will sweep the civil service clean of those officials who have been contributing to the national malaise. There are, and will always be, Kenyan patriots to serve the nation when called upon. Competent men and women. Loyal men and women.

It is now up to the Wananchi to register as voters and elect decent and committed Kenyans to run the affairs of state. Only then can we all be assured of stability in the country.

We conclude with a random thought: people get the government they deserve. Our people deserve the best.

The Standard **18 May**
EA181234 Nairobi The Standard in English 18 May 83 p 4

[Editorial article: "Moi's Honest Leadership"]

[Text] Yesterday's timely and crucial session of the Governing Council of Kenya's ruling party, KANU, set an historic example which will be emulated by a number of other emergent African countries which are desirous of maintaining their tempo of development and stability, democratic institutions, and the right of citizens to elect leaders and representatives of their own free choice.

The golden example was enunciated and decreed by His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi himself. Exercising his constitutional powers, briefly alluded to in yesterday's *Standard* editorial, the head of state, who is also president of the ruling party, addressing the KANU Governing Council, communicated his wise decision and directed that general elections will be held in September this year.

The president's nononsense and flawless management of affairs of state won the unanimous acclaim of the assembled delegates who were already in an angered mood following the recent disclosure by the head of state himself that certain foreign countries were grooming a Kenyan stooge to usurp his popularly elected presidency.

And, in his wisdom, President Moi soothed all that anger by ordering that all elected Kenyan leaders, including himself, will seek fresh mandate from Wananchi. Whatever happens to the traitor and his accomplices — whom the president once again denounced — in the interim period, of one thing they should rest assured: the Kenyan electorate is both intelligent and affluent enough and will reject them if they dare to seek fresh mandate. But, will they...?

A sincerely God-fearing leader who detests all the satanic sayjbols, vices and practices, President Moi made it clear that his patience had been exhausted. Admittedly, when we was popularly elected to succeed the late founding father of the nation, Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, in 1978, his excellency inherited a delicate situation.

He had to ensure continuity. He retained in positions of responsibility a number of individuals, including a couple of ministers and senior civil servants, who would have been shown the exit had they been citizens of another country and had such a country found itself in such a predicament.

And such are the creed of opportunistic, power and wealth-seking individuals who have all along been over-taxing the president's thoughts. In their vanity, some of them (undoubtedly at the behest of the traitor he denounced first on May 8) have been trying to usurp his uniquely successful presidency through graft and corruption and other devilish means.

The *Standard* has already, and often enough, complimented President Moi's sagacity and good judgement. Had he allowed yesterday's scheduled KANU Governing Council deliberations to materialize into a general discussion of the activities of the few disgruntled and disloyal elements there are, the conference hall would have degenerated into a house of Babel.

The entire nation is extremely calm and happy now. The suspense there was has evaporated. President Moi's flawless management of the situation has saved Kenya a lot of embarrassment.

SOMALIA

Mogadishu Reports Foreign Minister's Talks in Belgium

EA181232 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 2045 GMT 17 May 83

[Text] The Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] Foreign minister, Challe Abdurahman Jana Barre, who is currently visiting Belgium, met his Belgian counterpart, Mr Leo Tindemans, yesterday. The minister also met the EEC president and the EEC development commissioner. Challe Abdurahman and the officials discussed international relations, the Horn of Africa crisis, and cooperation among the SDR, the EEC, and Belgium.

UGANDA

President Obote Addresses Party Congress

EA182240 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] President Milton Obote has called on the members of the National Council of the Uganda Peoples Congress [UPC] to find ways and means of opening new venues for the poor to enjoy prosperity brought about by the success of the recovery program. Dr Obote was speaking at the opening of a 2-day meeting of the party's parliament at the Uganda International Conference Center in Kampala.

He urged them to put their ideas into practice and to serve the entire people of Uganda without discrimination.

The president reported to the meeting the success of the recovery program, which he said was a result of what the party delineated as matters of priority in erecting a firm platform for recovery and prosperity in Uganda. He also reported that the government, since 1981, launched a tough economic recovery program which was receiving assistance and the expertise of the IMF and other international organizations. He (?told) them that their government had hitherto passed resoundingly all the serious tests set by the IMF. Currently, government is engaged in further negotiations with the IMF team which is in the country.

Dr Obote said that, despite difficulties in the mobilization of funds, the government had registered successes, especially in the fields of agriculture, animal industry, education, and posts and telecommunications.

He disclosed that the government is currently negotiating funds to rehabilitate rural water and road systems.

Emphasizing the need for production as a base for recovery, Dr Obote reported that the government of the UPC had initiated and follows consistent policies of constant review of prices of agricultural produce. He noted that the successes (?recorded by) the government have made its opponents and detractors look fool.

On security, Dr Obote reported tremendous improvement on the situation created by bandits in southern Uganda and reported that the government had embarked on training a new police force capable of handling incidents with banditry and thuggery. These matters, which are normal police concern in all countries, are unfortunately mistaken by the foreign press to be otherwise.

The president cautioned against harboring imaginary beliefs that there are big armies in the bush with a capacity to overthrow the legally elected government. There have never been such armies except in the fertile imagination of political rejects, he said.

Dr Obote thanked the National Council for keeping the party secure through difficult times.

The meeting continued with its deliberations except for the lunch break.

CAMEROON

President Biya Receives Morocco's Boucetta

LD171715 Rabat MAP in English 1223 GMT 17 May 83

[Text] Yaounde, May 17 (MAP) — Mr M'Hamed Boucetta, Moroccan state minister of foreign affairs, was received last Sunday by the president of Cameroon, Mr Paul Biya, to whom he handed a message from King Hassan II of Morocco.

In a statement to the press after the meeting, Mr Boucetta said that "If Morocco's objective is to save the OAU which remains a privileged instrument for liberating Africa and for economic development, we exact in return that this organization respect its Charter and act within legality.

It is to be noted that the Cameroonian Government had published a communique last Friday, announcing that it considered that the African summit was being prepared for in an "atmosphere of ambiguity," and that Cameroon would not make known whether it will participate or not, until it obtained certain clarifications.

Agreements Signed With Equatorial Guinea

AB162154 Dakar PANA in French 1745 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] 18 May (Cameroon-PANA) — Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea have decided to add a new dynamism to their relations of cooperation. To this end, a new trade agreement (superseding the 1970 agreement) and many agreements in other sectors have been concluded. Agreements in the sphere of agriculture and forestry were ratified on Tuesday. These actions stem from a communique issued at the end of the meeting of the joint commission held in Malabo from 27 to 29 April 1983. [sentence as received]

On this occasion, Aminou Oumarou, Cameroonian minister delegate to the minister of foreign affairs, conveyed a message from President Paul Biya to the Equatorial Guinean head of state. Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea have excellent good-neighborly relations. Meanwhile, Equatorial Guinea is making preparations to join the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa and the franc zone in the near future. The Equatorial Guinean capital, Malabo, is located on the island of Fernando-Po, about 50 kms off Douala.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Libyan Military Advisers To Leave 21 May

AB181134 Paris AFP in English 1109 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Bangui, May 18 (AFP) — A team of Libyan military advisers will leave here for home on Saturday after completing a six-month training programme for Central African Army tank crews, it was learnt here today. The military authorities here were told of the imminent departure of the 56-strong Libyan team during a passing out parade yesterday of 50 Central African soldiers trained on the armoured vehicles.

Libya has given Central Africa a number of armoured cars, lorries and light vehicles as part of the training project.

The two countries resumed diplomatic relations in September last year, and Central African Head of State General Andre Kolingba has since visited Libya.

CHAD

GUNT Cabinet Reshuffle Announced 18 May

AB181934 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1815 GMT 18 May 83

[Excerpts] We will now interrupt our variety program to announce a very important piece of news to the national and international listeners. It is the list of members of the Transitional National Union Government of Chad [GUNT] which has been expected for many days. The list of the new Cabinet is as follows:

President	Goukouni Oueddei
Vice President	Colonel Wadal Abdel Kader Kamougue
Minister of National Defense	(Sheikh Sadoum) Omar
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation	(Mahamat Ibn Mbarka)
Minister of Interior and Security	Moussa Mada Ali
Minister of Economy and Finance	Mahamat Saleh Abdel (Bola)
Minister of Rural Development	(Ysuf Djiri)
Minister of Education and Culture	Dr Moukouri Goukouni
Minister of Public Health, Social Affairs and Women's Affairs	Dr (Oumarou)
Minister of Information and Culture [as heard]	(Isha Tourbi)
Minister of Transport and Telecommunications	Ramat Alkhali
Minister of Public Works, Mines and Geology	(Aramaht Oumar Abarana)
Minister of Housing and Construction	Commander Leonard (Najidal Yombel)
Minister of Civil Service and Administrative Reform	(Olena Tchombi)
Secretary of State for Defense	(Abdel Mahmout Oumar Mahajir)
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs	(Abengar Tourlouro)
Secretary of State for Economy and Finance	(Adahou Andom)
Secretary of State for Information	(Mazanaki Nzana)
Government Secretary General	(Ire Erkoumar)
Assistant Secretary General	(Abdourahmane Chouta Youssouf)

RWANDA

President Comments on Talks in PRC, DPRK

EA180235 Kigali Domestic Service in French 1115 GMT 17 May 83

[Excerpts] The president of the republic and president-founder of the National Revolutionary Movement for Development, Major General Habyarimana, returned to Kigali this morning at the end of his 8-day official visit to China and North Korea.

In a speech greeting the militants who had come to welcome him, he referred to his visits to Beijing and Pyongyang, saying that their aim was to strengthen relations of friendship and cooperation between Rwanda and those two Far Eastern countries. He said that during his talks with top Chinese and Korean officials it was decided to continue the projects listed in the cooperation program concluded in June 1978, as well as certain projects which had been planned but which have only been partly completed or not yet begun.

However, he added, while the program already set up will be followed, there is a question of planning and drawing up another cooperation program to be signed in the near future by the parties concerned. He regretted that this cooperation program could not be signed during his visit because projects already planned must be concluded and because the economic problems facing our partners [words indistinct] the current international situation.

On the general level, President Juvenal Habyarimana pointed out that talks during recent months with the Chinese and Korean authorities, and also with some of our European and Arab partners, have shown that cooperation is less and less enthusiastic, less and less generous and disinterested, due [words indistinct] to the difficult international economic situation. There is thus a lesson to be learned, the president said, which is that we must depend more than ever on ourselves, on our own capabilities, as our movement recommends. We must also increase our efforts in all areas of national economic life — agriculture, stockfarming, the industrialization of the country, etc — in an atmosphere of peace, unity and national harmony.

ZAIRE

Visiting Minister Says CAR To Attend OAU Summit

AB170958 Paris AFP in French 0714 GMT 17 May 83

[Text] Kinshasa, 17 May (AFP) — The CAR will participate in the forthcoming OAU summit scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa from 6 to 11 June. This was revealed in Kinshasa on Monday by Christophe Grelombe, the CAR minister of interior.

Mr Grelombe, who made this statement at the end of talks with Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, the Zairian head of state, said that the CAR's decision to be present at the Addis Ababa summit was dictated by its desire to see that the crisis currently facing the pan-African organization is resolved.

"The CAR is committed to African unity and remains convinced that the issues which paralyze the OAU can only be smoothed out through a meeting of African heads of state," the CAR minister added.

Mr Grelombe, who delivered a message from CAR President Andre Kolingba to Marshal Mobutu, said the message concerned cooperation between Zaire and the CAR and issues of mutual interest.

GHANA

Agricultural Official Meets Romanian Delegation

AB171814 Accra Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 17 May 83

[Text] The deputy secretary of agriculture, Mr Charles Annan, today met the four-man delegation from Romania which is in the country for talks with government's officials on various ways of cooperation between the two countries. The delegation will also discuss the supply of fertilizers, tractors, and land-clearing equipment with officials of the Ministry of Agriculture.

At the meeting, Mr Annan announced that henceforth nobody would be allowed to operate a new tractor without having gone through the requisite training. He said many machines became faulty as a result of lack of proper handling by the operators.

GUINEA

Communique on Bongo Visit Released 17 May

AB171552 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 17 May 83

[Guinea-Gabon final communique issued at end of President Omar Bongo's official visit to Guinea from 13 to 15 May — read by Emmanuel Mendoum Menze, director of African Affairs Division in Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation]

[Text] At the invitation of Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure and Mrs Andree Toure, the first lady of the republic, Gabonese President Omar Bongo and Mrs Josephine Bongo, the Gabonese first lady, made an official, friendly visit to the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea from 13 to 15 May 1983 on the occasion of the festivities marking the 36th anniversary of the Guinean Democratic Party. On their arrival in Conakry, the Gabonese head of state and the members of his delegation were warmly received at Gbessia International Airport by His Excellency Ahmed Sekou Toure of Guinea and members of the government as well as the political and administrative officials of the capital against the backdrop of a popular festival performed by the militants of the Federation of Conakry III.

Shortly after that brilliant reception, President Bongo was accompanied by President Sekou Toure to the federations of Labe and Farana, where they received a particularly warm and enthusiastic welcome. On 14 May at the 27 September Stadium in Conakry, President Omar Bongo and his delegation took part in the imposing ceremonies which marked the 36th anniversary of the Guinean Democratic Party.

In his various speeches at Labe, Farana, and the 26 September Stadium, Guinean head of state Ahmed Sekou Toure hailed the considerable efforts made by President Omar Bongo to further the socioeconomic development of his country with a view to satisfying the legitimate aspirations of the Gabonese people. He also praised the perseverence of President Omar Bongo, his party, the Gabonese Democratic Party, and his government in their efforts aimed at restoring and strengthening the unity of the Gabonese people. President Ahmed Sekou Toure also underlined the noteworthy contribution by the Gabonese head of state to safeguarding and strengthening the OAU and the Islamic Conference Organization, two organizations within which Gabon and Guinea share identical views.

President Ahmed Sekou Toure particularly emphasized the need to further solidify and consolidate the relations between the peoples of Guinea and Gabon and their parties, the Gabonese Democratic Party and the Guinean Democratic Party.

For his part, the Gabonese head of state, His Excellency El Hadj Omar Bongo, expressed his satisfaction at being in Guinea, where the courageous and dynamic people are united and stand like a single person behind their president, Ahmed Sekou Toure, whose election on 28 September 1958 made him a major target of Africa's enemies. His Excellency President El Hadj Omar Bongo said he was overwhelmed by the very warm and brotherly atmosphere which marked the reception accorded him and his large delegation, thus proving false those who claim that his relations with President Ahmed Sekou Toure were strained.

The head of state, like his brother, hoped that a more dynamic development of bilateral relations would result from the present visit, and promised to come back for a longer stay with the friendly people of Guinea. The Gabonese head of state, President Omar Bongo, expressed his deep admiration for President Ahmed Sekou Toure and the valiant people of Guinea for the historic role they have played in Africa's decolonization and rehabilitation process. He paid tribute both to the heroic people of Guinea for their sense of unity and self-denial and to the great leader of the Guinean revolution, President Ahmed Sekou Toure.

In addition to these activities, Their Excellencies Ahmed Sekou Toure and El Hadj Omar Bongo held talks on bilateral, African and international issues. During these talks, which were held in an atmosphere of frankness and cordiality, the two heads of state noted with satisfaction that they shared similar views on all issues discussed.

Those who took part in these talks were, on the Gabonese side:

Leon Nze, member of the Political Bureau and permanent delegate general to the secretary general and founder of the Gabonese Democratic Party [PDG]; Zacharie Myboto, member of the Political Bureau, administrative secretary of the PDG and minister of information, posts and telecommunications; Mrs Honorine Dossou-Naki, member of the Central Committee and secretary of state to the minister of state and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; Louis Gaston Mayila, member of the Central Committee and minister of national education; Jean Emile Mbot, member of the Central Committee and minister of culture, arts and popular education; Albert Yangari, member of Central Committee and secretary of state for tourism in charge of leisure activities; Mrs Rose Rogombe, member of the Central Committee and secretary of state for women's affairs; Jean Essono Ovono, member of the Central Committee, secretary of state to the minister of state, and secretary general and spokesman of the Presidency; Eugene Essonde, member of the Central Committee and permanent under secretary to the president; and Jean-Felix Oyoue, ambassador extraordinaire and

plenipotentiary of the Republic of Gabon to the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea.

On the Guinean side: Dr Lansana Beavogui, member of the National Political Bureau and prime minister in charge of planning and statistics; Damantang Camara, member of the National Political Bureau and president of the People's National Assembly; El Hadj Moussa Diakite, member of the National Political Bureau and minister of housing, state lands, and urban affairs; General Lansana Diane, member of the National Political Bureau and minister of the People's Army; Jeanne Martin-Cisse, member of the National Political Bureau and minister of social affairs; Sekou Cherif, member of the National Political Bureau and minister of interior and security; Mouctar Diallo, member of the National Political Bureau and minister of mid-level technical and professional training; Senainon Behanzin, secretary of the Political Bureau and Minister of Agro-Pastoral Farms and Agricultural Cooperatives; and Fode Berite, secretary general at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On the bilateral level, the two heads of state expressed satisfaction about the excellent friendly and fraternal relations between their two countries and expressed their desire to extend and strengthen it in all fields. To this end, they agreed to establish a joint cooperation commission between the two countries. They also decided to consult one another regularly on matters of mutual interest.

Concerning African affairs, the two heads of state reaffirmed their attachment to the fundamental principles and Charter of the OAU. In this regard, they noted that the crisis through which the OAU is passing was brought about by the deliberate violation of its Charter. The two heads of state, therefore, called for strict respect of the fundamental principles of the Charter of the OAU and its relevant resolutions in order to safeguard its survival and credibility. They reaffirmed the desire and determination of their two countries to do everything possible to save the continental organization and expressed their unflinching support of the Lagos Plan for the economic and social development of Africa and the achievement of its unity.

The two presidents also expressed the need for independent states on the continent to give more effective political and material support to countries of southern Africa in their struggle against acts of war and aggression by minority-ruled South Africa.

Concerning Namibia, the two heads of state called for the immediate and unconditional implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 435 for the independence of that territory.

On the international scene, and with particular reference to the situation in the Middle East, the two heads of state reiterated their firm support for the PLO in its noble struggle to secure the total liberation of the Palestinian people in order to allow them to exercise their inalienable right to live in peace in an independent and sovereign territory. They also called for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab territories.

In the face of the deteriorating economic situation which prevails throughout the world, the two heads of state expressed the need to strengthen South-South cooperation, an important step toward the creation of a new world economic order. On this subject, the two heads of state described the results of the Seventh Summit of the Nonaligned Movement in New Delhi as highly positive. They expressed satisfaction at the strengthened cohesion and unity which resulted from that summit.

At the end of their talks, the two heads of state expressed satisfaction at the positive results of the official friendly visit by President El Hadj Omar Bongo to the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea. His Excellency President Omar Bongo and Mrs Josephine Bongo, first lady of Gabon, invited President Ahmed Sekou Toure and Mrs Andre Toure, first lady of Guinea, to make a friendly state visit to the Republic of Gabon. This invitation was accepted with pleasure. The date of the visit will be fixed later by mutual consent.

His Excellency President Omar Bongo, on behalf of the first lady of Gabon, Mrs Josephine Bongo, and on behalf of the large delegation accompanying him, and on his own behalf, expressed sincere thanks to His Excellency President Ahmed Sekou Toure, to the first lady of Guinea, Mrs Andre Toure, the government, the Democratic Party of Guinea, PDG, and to all the people of Guinea for the special, fraternal, and warm welcome accorded him and his delegation during their stay in the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea.

Issued in Conakry, on 15 May 1983

Signed: El Hadj Omar Bongo, president of the Republic of Gabon; and Ahmed Sekou Toure, president of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea

LIBERIA

Doe Ready To Make Public Corporations Private

AB182214 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] The Liberian Government is prepared to turn the Liberia Electricity Corporation [LEC] and the Liberia Timber and Plywood Corporation [LTPC] to private investors. The Liberian head of state and chairman of the People's Redemption Council [PRC], Samuel Kanyon Doe, made the statement today in a message to the PRC. Commander in Chief Samuel Kanyon Doe said this action is based on his continued dissatisfaction over the performance of many public corporations in the country, both in terms of economic viability and of services to the people. The head of state noted with particular emphasis the present electricity situation in the country and the embarrassment it imposes on business enterprises.

In the letter, the head of state stressed that at this time of the Liberian revolution he considers it expedient to examine the relevance of public corporations to national development. The head of state said he has become dissatisfied with the present situation facing many of these corporations, particularly the LEC and the LTPC.

NIGER

School Situation 'Slowly' Returning to Normal

AB181602 Paris AFP in French 1414 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Niamey, 18 May (AFP) — According to official sources, the situation is slowly returning to normal at Niamey University and at the capital's two secondary schools. This information comes as the deadline set by the government for the students to end their 2-week strike was due to expire today.

According to the Ministry of National Education, the situation was "almost normal" on Wednesday morning in Niamey's two secondary schools, Issa Korombe (880 pupils), and Kassai (700 pupils). These students have been boycotting classes since 5 May in solidarity with their counterparts at the university and to protest the death of a student who died following his interrogation on the university campus on 3 May.

At the university, the chancellery announced that an average of 75 percent of the students attended their Wednesday morning classes, 15 percent more than on the previous day. However, according to the same source, some university departments, mainly the science and health sciences departments, have a high percentage of absenteeism, from 40 to 50 percent in some sections.

According to an official source, the striking students, who have among their ranks a number of Upper Voltans described as a "group of hardliners," are demanding the release of about 15 students who have been charged with "violence and calling for violence" and the reopening of the Agricultural College (ESA) which was closed at the end of April.

According to student sources, the members of this group, who are for the most part involved with the unrecognized Union of Nigerois School Pupils (USN) and its university section, the Union of Nigerois Niamey University Students (UENUN), are suspected of having committed violent acts at the end of April against the ESA lecturers and director, and of having held a police officer hostage on the university campus at the beginning of May.

As of noon on Wednesday, the government had not yet made its intentions known. According to the deadline announced last Friday evening, first set for Monday and then for Wednesday, the ministers of national education and of higher education and research announced that if the return to classes was not "effective and complete," the institutions which continued the strike would be closed, their students sent home, and those graduating expelled and integrated into the working population.

NIGERIA

Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Pays Visit

Talks Begin 18 May

AB181623 Lagos NAN in English 1600 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Lagos, May 18, (NAN) — Talks began in Lagos today between officials of the Ministry of External Affairs and a team of Czechoslovak officials.

The minister of external affairs, Professor Ishaya Audu, is leading the Nigerian team, while the Czechoslovakia foreign minister, Mr. Bohuslav Chnoupek, is leading his country's team.

The Czechoslovakia minister arrived in Lagos yesterday on a three-day visit.

Mr. Chnoupek commended Nigeria's role in the struggle against racism in Africa.

The Czech envoy said that he would brief his Nigerian counterpart on the outcome of the deliberations of the foreign ministers and political advisory committees of the Warsaw Pact countries.

Mr. Chnoupek is expected to visit the new federal capital, Abuja, tomorrow and, later in the day, resume the second round of talks with his host.

Vice President Receives Chnoupek

AB182206 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] The vice president, Dr Alex Ekwueme, has stated that the industrial policy of this administration is to move the country away from mere assembly of ready-made goods to full manufacture of primary products, using local raw materials. He said that this was one way the country could recover from its present economic situation caused in the main by dependence on one commodity, that is, oil. Dr Ekwueme was speaking in Lagos today when he received a five-man Czechoslovak delegation led by the country's foreign minister, Mr Bohuslav Chnoupek, at State House, Ribadu Road. The vice president therefore expressed satisfaction with the cordial relations existing between Nigeria and Czechoslovakia and called for increased economic cooperation in the areas of agriculture and industrial development.

17 PRP, NPN Legislators Resign; To Run for NPP

AB182010 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 May 83

[Text]Seventeen members of the House of Representatives today resigned their memberships of the House. Fourteen of them belong to the People's Redemption Party and three to the National Party of Nigeria. All the members, who have also resigned from their parties, said they are contesting the next elections on the platform of the Nigeria People's Party.

SENEGAL

French Adviser Declines Comment on Upper Volta

AB190756 Paris AFP in English 0729 GMT 19 May 83

[Text] Dakar, May 19 (AFP) — French President Francois Mitterand's African Affairs adviser, Guy Penne, refused to comment here Wednesday on the arrest of the pro-Libyan Upper Voltan premier, Captain Thomas Sankara, the strongman of the six-month-old military regime of Major Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, and other leading figures.

The purge took place during Mr Penne's one-day visit to Ouagadougou Tuesday.

France and Libya have been vying for influence with the Ouedraogo government. Reliable sources in Paris said Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi visited Ouagadougou seven weeks ago and discussed aid possibilities in exchange for Upper Voltan support for Libyan policy in Chad. The purged figures are now under house arrest, the sources said.

Mr Penne left here Wednesday night after conferring with Senegalese President Abdou Diouf and Gambian President Sir Dawda Jawara. He said he had discussed with Sir Dawda French plans to help build a computerized telecommunications center in Banjul, the Gambian capital, and cotton-growing and fishing projects. A further aid project involves the supply of military vehicles.

TOGO

Further on Visit of FRG's Strauss, Warnke

16 May Activities Reported

AB170902 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 16 May 83

[Excerpts] The visit to Togo which FRG Minister of Economic Cooperation Juergen Warnke began last Saturday and that which Dr Franz-Josef Strauss, minister president of the Free State of Bavaria, FRG, started yesterday morning both continued in Lome today. President Eyadema and the militants of Lome are currently giving a popular welcome to Dr Strauss at the party house.

This morning, Presidents Gnassingbe Eyadema and Franz-Josef Strauss held a lengthy talk lasting several hours at the presidential guest house. Mr Warnke was also present. Soon thereafter, the two guests of Togo, in the company of FRG Ambassador to Togo Johannes Reitberger, visited the headquarters of the Eyadema Foundation in the capital. After visiting the offices of the Eyadema Foundation, the two guests of the Togolese people went to the residence of the FRG ambassador at 1240 for a private luncheon given by Ambassador Dr Johannes Reitberger. Following the luncheon, FRG Economic Cooperation Minister Mr Warnke visited the autonomous port of Lome in the afternoon. He was met and welcomed by Minister of Mines, Energy, and Water Resources Barry Moussa Barque. The two ministers later went on board the ship (Bavida) and inspected the progress being made on the construction of the second pier of the port. The two ministers were satisfied when they left the port to return to the city.

Earlier this morning, Dr Juergen Warnke held a working session at the Togolese People's Rally [RPT] party house with an important Togolese delegation led by Anani Kuma Akakpo-Ahiabyon, member of the Political Bureau of the RPT and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. Others who took part in the working session included his colleagues and members of the Political Bureau of the RPT, Tete Tevi Benissan and Moussa Barry Barque; Central Committee members Anani Gassou, Samon Korto, Hodaballo Bodjona, Komlan Agbetiafa, Koffi Walla, and Yao Agbo. Present on the FRG side, in addition to Minister Warnke, was the FRG ambassador to Togo, Johannes Reitberger. In his opening address at the working session, Mr Ahianyon, the Togolese minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, stressed the exemplary character of FRG-Togo cooperation, which is concentrated mainly in our key development sectors: agriculture, trade, and health. In his reply, FRG Minister of Economic Cooperation Dr Warnke stressed the confidence which exists between Togo and the FRG. This confidence, according to Dr Warnke, is a treasure which must be preserved. He did not fail to thank General Eyadema, RPT founding president and president of the republic, for inviting him to visit Togo. This, according to him, is the first such visit to Africa. At the end of this working session, a loan agreement was signed between Togo and the FRG by Dr Juergen Warnke for the FRG and by Minister Akapko-Ahianyon for Togo.

This morning, prior to the working session, Mr Warnke paid a courtesy call on his Togolese counterpart, Mr Akapko-Ahianyon. During the visit, the two ministers discussed the friendship and excellent cooperation between Togo and the FRG. Minister Delegate to the Presidency of the Republic in Charge of Information, Posts, and Telecommunications Gbegnon Amegboh gave a luncheon this afternoon in honor of the 13 German journalists accompanying FRG Economic Cooperation Minister Juergen Warnke.In his toast, Minister Amegboh stressed in particular the historic ties of friendship and cooperation existing between Togo and the FRG. The minister delegate to the presidency regretted that the stay of the FRG journalists was coming to an end and urged them to return to Togo in order to take advantage of the peace and security which characterize the new Togo and in order to better discover our country.

In his reply to the wishes of Minister Amegboh, the dean of the journalists expressed surprise at the economic development of Togo. After thanking the Togolese people and their president,

Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, for the warm welcome given their leaders, the minister president of the Free State of Bavaria and the FRG minister of economic cooperation, the dean of the journalists expressed his happiness in noting that Presidents Eyadema and Strauss maintain very intimate and cordial relations. He expressed the wish that these relations be strengthened to the benefit of the FRG and Togolese people. To demonstrate this personal friendship between Eyadema and Strauss, the FRG journalists — who represent the major FRG media including *Der Spiegel*, *Die Welt*, and television etc — suggested that the two friends should exchange first names and henceforth be called Gnassingbe Strauss and Strauss Eyadema.

Warnke Ends Visit, Departs

AB171951 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 17 May 83

[Text] FRG Economic Cooperation Minister Dr Juergen Warnke left Lome last night after a 3-day stay in our country. The special Air Force Fokker aircraft on which Dr Warnke traveled took off from Lome's Tokoin International Airport at 2340.

The FRG economic cooperation minister was seen off by Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Anani Kuma Akakpo-Ahianyo and Public Works, Mines, Energy and Hydraulic Resources Minister Moussa Barry Barque, both members of the Political Bureau of the Togolese People's Rally [RPT]. Also present at the airport were the FRG ambassador to Togo, His Excellency Johannes Reitberger; his Togolese counterpart in the FRG, His Excellency Agbenou Assiongbon; as well as Dr Germut Katinger, director of the Eyadema Foundation.

In a statement to the press before leaving, Minister Warnke expressed his conviction that the cooperation between Togo and the FRG is an ideal one which will be strengthened.

[Begin Recording] [Warnke] I had two meetings with the president and I was satisfied, greatly satisfied, to note that the development priorities of Togo and the FRG have remained identical. I was also happy to note that the bonds of friendship which have existed between the FRG and Togo for almost a century have served as a foundation for a more ideal cooperation in development. I am therefore convinced that our cooperation will continue and will yield more in the future.

[Unidentified reporter] Yes, on the 100 years of friendship between Togo and the FRG, what significance do the Germans place on this friendship and what hope do the two peoples have for this second century of friendship?

[Warnke] We and the Togolese people and government have expressed our desire to preserve peace and promote international cooperation. It is a treasure to establish confidence between two peoples — a treasure that must be carefully preserved. I am sure that my fellow countrymen in the FRG share this feeling. It is therefore with much joy that we are observing this centennial in 1984.

[Unidentified reporter] There is a general feeling all over the world that with the present economic crisis, economic recovery in the developed countries depends on recovery in the Third World. Do you share this notion of interdependence and how do you see this within the framework of the cooperation between the FRG and Togo?

[Warnke] In fact, I held discussions with the UNCTAD secretary general, Mr (Damani Korea), who told me that, in his opinion, it is the industrialized countries that can act as the driving force behind the international economic recovery. But we have noticed that such a recovery cannot last unless all the Third World countries also benefit from it. This is therefore one of the reasons the FRG Government wants the struggle against protectionism, which closes markets to the exports of Third World countries, for example, to be carried out with much zeal. We want to keep our markets open to Third World countries. [end recording]

Strauss Departs 18 May

AB182041 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 18 May 83

[Excerpts] Thousands of Lome residents today went to the capital's Tokouin International Airport to bid farewell to Dr Franz-Josef Strauss, minister president of the Free State of Bavaria. Among the militants at the Lome airport this morning were members of the Central Committee of the Togolese People's Rally and party activists from Lome. Minister President Strauss was accompanied to the airport by the president of the republic, General Gnassingbe Eyadema. That was at about 1000. Shortly before his departure, Dr Strauss gave the Togolese press his impressions following this official visit to Togo:

[Begin Strauss recording in German with sentence-by-sentence translation into French] I am very grateful to the president of the republic for giving me this opportunity to visit Togo once again and to become acquainted with what it has achieved since the last visit I paid to Togo. The country is currently being built economically, but it is certain that there is a brighter future ahead. There are three preconditions to the solution of its problems:

First, there must be a world economic recovery. The world economy is currently facing a crisis, but we hope that in 1984 or in 1985 at the latest, the recovery will begin.

Second, development aid to needy countries must be disbursed in a more precise manner than has so far been the case. I am not an expert in Togolese affairs. It is difficult to become one in just a few days. But I can add one thing that I consider important and it is the need to extend the railroad to the northern border of the country. The locomotives must be renovated. We are prepared to assist. This is possible because the railroad system in the FRG is now being reorganized and equipment that will be recovered there can also be used here. We have a good number of diesel locomotives which are no longer of any use in our country. This is because we have changed our network to the electric railroad system and diesel locomotives have been abandoned.

Thirdly and finally, there is a need for close cooperation between German and local authorities. What also impressed me is the happiness and kindness of the people I met. [end recording]

UPPER VOLTA

Libyan Envoy Asked To Leave Within 48 Hours

AB191108 Paris AFP in French 1059 GMT 19 May 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, 19 May (AFP) — The Libyan charge d'affaires in Upper Volta, (Ibrahim O. al-Hamani), was requested on Wednesday to leave Upper Volta within 48 hours, it was learned from government sources in Ouagadougou. According to these sources, Mr (al-Hamani) is expected to leave Ouagadougou at 1200 Friday.

Ouagadougou Reported Calm, Curfew Eased

AB181357 Paris AFP in English 1348 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, May 18 (AFP) — The Upper Voltan capital was calm today and tanks had withdrawn from the streets one day after the arrest of Prime Minister Thomas Sankara in a "purge" of the ruling People's Salvation Council (CSP).

A number of prominent members of the CSP were also reportedly arrested by security agents loyal to Head of State Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, including Major Jean-Baptiste Lingani, secretary-general of the CSP's Permanent Secretariat, according to generally well-informed sources. The Permanent Secretariat was the founding body of the CSP which seized power last November 7.

The Voltan population had today returned to work, and the tanks which were stationed near the prime minister's residence had left the area by yesterday afternoon. Tanks which had surrounded the central Guillaume Ouedraogo military barracks had left before the curfew was lifted at 5.00 a.m. local time.

In a brief statement on national radio yesterday, Major Ouedraogo said that the CSP had decided to remove from power all those who were allegedly working to change government policies.

The curfew, which yesterday was imposed from 8:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m., was today reduced to between 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m.

In a statement published today, the CSP called on the population for calm and vigilance and said Voltans should remain "mobilised."

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Continues Working Visit to USSR

MB180858 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the party and president of the republic, is continuing his working and friendly visit to the Soviet Union that began the day before yesterday. Yesterday afternoon the supreme leader of the party and the nation visited the Angolan Embassy in Moscow, where he met the staff members.

Yesterday morning the Angolan head of state took part in yet another working session at the Grand Kremlin Palace. The Angolan delegation to the talks included Afonso van Dunem, secretary of the party Central Committee for foreign relations; Pascal Luvualu, member of the Political Bureau; Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale, minister of defense; Paulo Jorge, minister of foreign affairs; and Lopo do Nascimento, minister of planning.

The Soviet delegation, which was led by Andrey Gromyko, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs, included, among other important personalities, Boris Ponomarev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee for foreign relations.

Meanwhile, before this meeting Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos visited the Vladimir Ilich Lenin mausoleum, where he paid homage to the great world personality by laying a wreath. President Jose Eduardo dos Santos then visited the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier near the Kremlin wall, where he also laid a wreath honoring the memory of thousands of Soviets who gave their lives in the struggle against fascist Nazism.

Still in the framework of the presidential visit to the Soviet Union, other members of the Angolan delegation held a number of meetings with Soviet leaders. Thus, Lopo do Nascimento, minister of planning; Pedro van Dunem Loi, minister of energy and petroleum, and Augusto de Matos, minister of finance, met with Nikolay Baybakov, chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee, in Moscow yesterday. During the meeting, which was also attended by the chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and the first deputy minister of foreign trade of the Soviet Union, the two sides discussed matters related to the future development of the economic relations between Angola and the Soviet Union.

According to today's schedule, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos San tos, chairman of the party and president of the republic, is to visit Kiev, capital of the Ukrainian Socialist Republic, for a 2-day working visit. During his stay in Kiev President Jose Eduardo dos Santos will have the opportunity to hold talks with the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine and to visit several historic places.

Meanwhile, the Angolan students living in the Soviet Union saluted the visit being made by Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. Speaking on behalf of the students, (Guilherme Guerra), chairman of the Angolan Students Association in the USSR and a second-year student at the Chemical Technology Institute of Moscow, said that the visit of the comrade president is taking place at a particularly difficult time for Angola — at a time when racist South Africa, supported by international imperialism, is waging an undeclared war against the young republic. The Angolan students understand that at this difficult moment, they have a specific responsibility as the future qualified specialists who will make their contribution to the social and economic development of Angola.

Referring to the activities carried out by the Angolan students in Moscow, (Guilherme Guerra) pointed out that the shortage of cadres is one of the most important problems faced by Angola, adding that the Angolan students are happy to have the opportunity to study in the Soviet Union [words indistinct] of the necessary conditions for acquiring sound qualifications and solid knowledge. We are convinced that the visit of Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos will be a new landmark in the development of the relations of friendship between the Angolan and Soviet peoples, (Guilherme Guerra) said.

Xuan Thuy-Led Vietnamese Delegation Ends Visit

MB181306 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 16 May 83

[Text] Asked to comment on his impressions of Angola at the end of his first visit Xuan Thuy, Vietnamese secretary for foreign relations, told our correspondent that he had realized that the herioc Angolan people, under the leadership of their vanguard party, the MPLA-Labor Party, work with dedication in the tasks of national reconstruction with the aim of improving their social standards. Xuan Thuy also said that he could realize how close the solidarity feelings are of the Angolan and Vietnamese peoples, as well as the solidarity of their parties and governments, stressing that the people and the party of Vietnam are on the side of the Angolan people in their struggle for the defense of the fatherland and national reconstruction.

The Vietnamese delegation was seen off by Elisio Machado, secretary of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee for administration and finance, and by Antonio Lengue, director of the party department for foreign relations. Also, this morning at the end of the visit, the Vietnamese delegation met Mendes de Carvalho, minister of health, this morning, and visited the Dr Antonio Agostinho Neto National Party School. In the afternoon the delegation met with Augusto Lopes Teixeira, the minister of education.

Paris Embassy Communique Denounces Resistance Group

AB181346 Luanda ANGOP in French 1106 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Paris, 18 May (AFP) — In a communique, the Embassy of the People's Republic of Angola denounced an attempt by a group called the "International Resistance Group" to organize demonstrations in Paris in the next few days with the unconfirmed aim of disturbing the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Republic of France on one hand and the

People's Republics of Angola, Mozambique and Cape Verde on

the other.

The communique also stressed that in associating their fervor with anticommunism as representatives of Angolan and Mozambican puppet organizations and of a so-called Cape Verdian opposition group also finance by racist South Africa, the organizers of these demonstrations have clearly shown in whose pay they are working and are an insult to the African Continent, the communique added.

Finally, the Angolan Embassy in Paris regrets that such prestigious personalities as Raymond Aron and Mrs Simone Veil who were once victims of racism should join in such a parody and by their presence in this committee guarantee the apartheid policy and its strategy of destabilization of frontline African countries that support the liberation struggles of the peoples of Namibia and South Africa.

Government Forces Launch Operations Against UNITA

MB181938 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] The Angolan Armed Forces, in conjunction with support from the people, recently dismantled the so-called military region 71 of the counterrevolutionary gang known by the name of UNITA. This has been reported in Benugela by Comrade Kundi Paima, candidate member of the Political Bureau of the party, who is also the provincial commissioner.

With the dismantling of that military region of the mercenaries of racist South Africa, several enemy bases situated between the Benguela and Huambo provinces have now ceased to exist. The action unleashed by the Angolan forces, according to reports, consisted a series of military operations following the criminal actions of the gangsters against the peaceful area of Alto Catumbela in February this year.

According to Comrade Kundi Paima, during the operations various counterrevolutionaries were shot dead. They tried to resist when hey were taken by surprise. Many others were taken prisoner.

According to the same source great quantities of arms and ammunition, which the gangsters were using to stage massacres, kidnappings, robberies in the midst of the defenseless rural people, were captured.

In the bases, which have now been destroyed, the puppets of the South African racists held over 300 people, including 250 children, as prisoners under constant armed threat. All these people are now counting on the support of the local authorities who are reintegrating them in the tasks of national reconstruction. As a matter of fact, they are receiving subsistence help while in their places of origin trying to solve their problems.

When they were liberated, all those people were in a deplorable state of malnutrition. They condemned in no uncertain terms the inhuman manner in which they were treated. In their retreat, the puppets fired on civilians, one bullet hitting a child in the leg. The child was promptly given aid by the Angolan soldiers. The child was later evacuated by helicopter to Huambo town, where at this moment it is receiving medical attention.

The military operations of the Army and people's defense forces were followed by the collection of many goods at the destroyed bases and at farms where imprisoned civilians who through beatings, maltreatment and repression of all kinds, were compelled to work to ensure the subsistence of the mercenary groups that were operating in the zone, as well as other mercenaries who were passing through the so-called military region 71.

In this military campaign of neutralizing gangsters and their bases, citizens of Chicuma, Ganda, (Babaiara), Casseque, and Cubal played a major role. During the 30 days of the operation our forces recovered great quantities of maize, sweet potatoes, bananas, and pumpkins. It was also possible to recover over 300 dispersed head of cattle that had been stolen from the people. As is known, the people of that region are devoted to cattle farming. Other items stolen from the members of the public such as motorcycles, animal drawn carts, radios, and other goods were also recovered.

On the spur of the moment, some gangsters hid their arms in ditches as they fled. This equipment was later recovered with the collaboration of the population. In many places large quantities of ammunition and several kinds of arms — some of them of South African origin — were found. This fact does not reveal anything extraordinary as UNITA is no more than an armed wing of the Pretoria regime and, as such, it is absolutely natural that any arms they may have are of South African origin. During the operations it was noted that some of the goods produced on the farms where the people were forced to work were taken by the puppets to their areas on the other side of the border, in Namibia, which is illegally occupied by South Africans.

According to local sources, the high motivation of thousands of civilians who voluntarily wanted to work shoulder to shoulder with our armed forces, was admirable. This made the operation a success. They were mainly people who dropped their daily tasks on farms, in factories and in schools and decisively contributed to the complete rout of the enemy in the region.

Also during the 30 days of the operation, the people of Chicuma area, on the banks of river (Lecovongo), lived a new experience, the results of which can now be seen in the construction and reconstruction of five bridges, the opening of several kilometers of forest trails, and the invincibility of the strength of a determined people remained well-evident.

Besides these activities, during the campaign, political and cultural educaiton sessions were held. All these activities were presided over by Benguela Provincial Commissioner Kundi Paima.

UNITA Reveals Information on Detained Czechoslovaks

Statement Denies Hostages Died

NC181610 Paris AFP in English 1537 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Lisbon, May 18 (AFP) — The Angolan rebel UNITA movement today denied reports that children among the

Czechoslovak and Portuguese hostages captured in southern Angola in March had died during their long trek to a UNITA base.

In a statement received by AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE here, the Union for the Total Independence of Angola said all 64 Czechoslovak nationals captured on March 12 in Alto Catumbela were "in good health and out of danger."

The *Sunday Times of Zambia* announced on May 8 that at least three Czechoslovak children had died during the march through southern Angola.

Prague maintains that 66 Czechoslovaks, including foreign aid workers at a paper mill and their families, were captured

UNITA also said it seized 20 portuguese foreign aid workers in the raid, but according to Lisbon, only one holds a Portuguese passport while the others took on Angolan nationality when Angola became independent in 1975.

The statement said UNITA's "Central Committee" would soon authorize a representative abroad to begin negotiations with the interested parties with a view to releasing the captives.

The statement also invited the Portuguese Government to contact UNITA in order to identify the Portuguese nationals captured along with the Czechoslovaks.

Communique on Captured Children

PA181550 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1455 GMT 18 May 1983

[Text] Lisbon, 18 May (EFE) — The UNITA Central Committee published a communique here today saying that none of the Czechoslovak children captured by UNITA on 12 March has died.

The communique added that in the next few days UNITA will authorize one of its representatives abroad to start immediate talks aimed at freeing "those who can be freed without conditions" ["a aquellos que puedan ser liberados sin condiciones"].

According to UNITA, the Portuguese Government may contact them through whatever channels it deems appropriate to identify the detained citizens.

Statement Says Hostages Safe

MB181448 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] All UNITA's Czech and Portuguese civilian hostages have arrived safely in rebel held zones of Angola: That is according to a UNITA statement in Lisbon. The pro-Western guerrilla movement says the 84 civilians held in bush captivity for 68 days are safe and that negotiations for their release could begin within days. UNITA denounces what it calls the Soviet campaign of disinformation and says all the Czechs, including 17 women and 21 children, are healthy and out of danger. It denies reports that three of the hostage children have died during their forced march of over 1,800 km.

The hostages, industrial technicians and their families, were seized by UNITA in an attack on the Catumbela paper works in western Angola on March 12, 1983.

BOTSWANA

CCP Delegation Visits, Meets Vice President

MB180830 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] The vice president and minister of finance and development planning, Mr Peter Mmusi, has said the visit to Botswana by a six-man Chinese delegation has cemented the existing relations between Botswana and China. Speaking at his official residence during a reception hosted in honor of the visiting Chinese delegation last night, Mr Mmusi said the delegation had come to observe the many developments achieved by the Botswana Democratic Party [BDP] government within the few years of independence. He said the delegation had also seen the geographical problems Botswana faces, especially with relation to South Africa and Namibia.

The vice president also said the Chinese delegation was fortunate to witness the BDP sweeping the three by-elections and said that was an indication of what the party was going to do next year. Mr Mmusi also announced that the BDP had accepted the invitation by the Chinese delegation for the BDP to visit China and said the trip would be undertaken in the near future.

The leader of the delegation, Jiang Guanghua, who is the deputy head of the Chinese International Liaison Department of the Chinese Communist Party, said his delegation had enjoyed the highest kindness and hospitality offered by the BDP during its stay in Botswana. He also described his visit to Botswana as a very successful one.

Vice President Mmusi had earlier presented the Chinese delegation with a blanket made from a jackal's skin. The Chinese delegation, which arrived here last Wednesday, is scheduled to leave Botswana today.

'Cordial Discussions' Reported

MB181615 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] A member of the visiting Chinese Communist Party delegation said today that through hard work and dedication Botswana would overcome all difficulties including the current drought and the economic recession. Speaking to journalists during a press conference at the Chinese Embassy in Gaborone, Mr Jiang Guanghua stated that his delegation would leave Botswana with glad memories of the hardworking spirit displayed by Botswana.

Jiang Guanghua, the deputy leader of the Chinese International Liason Department of the Chinese Communist Party, led a six-man delegation which visited the Botswana Democratic Party

for a week. He said he was gratified to see the great achievement made by Botswana eliminating the remnants of colonialism and efforts done to improve the lives of the people under the leadership of President Masire. Jiang Guanghua noted that despite its geographical position, especially in relation to racist South Africa, Botswana firmly supported the liberation movements in Namibia and South Africa. He said China appreciated the just stand taken by Botswana in international affairs and the fact that Botswana pursues nonalignment policy.

Guanghua said he and his delegation met the president, Dr Masire, the vice president, Mr Mmusi and top Botswana Democratic Partyofficials and held cordial discussions with them. He also said that the Botswana Democratic Partyhas been invited to send a delegation to China, which the Botswana Democratic Party has accepted.

Last night at a reception he hosted for the delegation the vice president, Mr Peter Mmusi, said it had seen for itself the many developments achieved by the Botswana Democratic Party government within a few years of independence. The Chinese delegation leaves Botswana for the People's Republic of China later today.

LESOTHO

Acting Premier Says Nation 'At War' With S. Africa

MB181227 Johannesburg Rand Daily Mail in English 18 May 83 p 2

[Text] Maseru — South Africa and Lesotho are "at war" according to the Acting Prime Minister and Lesotho's Minister of Agriculture, Chief Peete Peete.

Speaking during the Defense and Internal Security Debate in Parliament, he asked for an allocation exceeding R24 million for defense.

He said Lesotho was faced with serious security problems because the South Africans were continuing the war fought between Basothos and South Africans for the past century. He said Lesotho could not attack in the same way she was attacked.

Chief Peete Peete said the Lesotho Security Forces had been modernized along the borders between Lesotho and South Africa and also the guarding of important installations.

He said Lesotho was being attacked for no apparent reason and appealed to the citizens to accept this fact and to co-operate fully with the security forces at all levels.

He told parliament that all members of the security forces were now insured, because they were being killed along with civilians.

Referring to the South African raid on Maseru on December 9, Chief Peete Peete said there were no ANC bases in Lesotho.

The SADF had only displayed four old rifles after the raid which clearly proved that there were no ANC bases in Maseru, he said.

1983 Parliament Bill Presented to Assembly

MB181527 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] The acting prime minister and minister of agriculture, Mr Peete Nkoebe Peete, today presented the Parliament Bill 1983 for first reading in the interim National Assembly. When it becomes law the Parliament Bill will replace Lesotho Order 1973 and is intended to operate as the constitution of Lesotho.

The bill makes provision for an elected General Assembly and a Senate which will be constituted of 22 principal and ward chiefs. The bill further provides for the executive arm headed by a prime minister. Except for minor changes here and there the bill reproduces in a large measure the provisions of the 1966 Constitution which dealt with the legislature and the executive.

A bill of rights will be presented separately to Parliament in this session.

MALAWI

General Elections Postponed until 29, 30 Jun

MB181803 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] His excellency, the life president has postponed the date of the forthcoming general elections from June 9, 1983 to June 29 and 30, 1983. This was announced in Zomba today by an office of the Electoral Commission.

Meanwhile, teams to receive names of candidates to stand for parliamentary general elections were today briefed on how nomination conferences should be conducted throughout the country. The briefing was conducted in Blantyre by the speaker of the national assembly, Mr Nelson Khonje.

NAMIBIA

Nujoma Says SWAPO 'Ready to Sign' Cease-Fire

MB170809 Johannesburg Rand Daily Mail in English 16 May 83 p 7

[Report on interview with SWAPO President Sam Nujoma by Andre Viljoen in Harare during Nujoma's early May visit to Zimbabwe]

[Text] "I can only say that SWAPO is ready to sign a cease-fire and is ready to talk directly to the Pretoria regime in order to put an end to the strife, war and bloodshed in our country," SWAPO president Sam Nujoma said in an interview in his hotel room.

"As far as SWAPO is concerned, the cease-fire would have come into effect in January 1981 during the Geneva pre- implementation conference. But the South African racist delegation there were reluctant to sign a cease-fire agreement and, up to now, South Africa refuses to accept the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 435," he said.

Mr Nujoma traces back the present deadlock in the protracted negotiations towards a Namibian solution to early 1981, when Mr Ronald Reagan became President of the United States.

"The Reagan administration first tried to amend 435. When they failed they tried using muscle power to block the implementation of 435 by injecting elements, such as the Cuban withdrawal, as a precondition for Namibian independence," he said.

"Initially, the Western Five Contact Group was genuine in its efforts to assist the UN to help the Namibian people to achieve freedom and independence." But, according to Mr Nujoma, the Reagan administration has "hijacked" the Contact Group (with the exception of France, which, Mr Nujoma said, officially dissociated itself twice from demands for a Cuban troop withdrawal. SWAPO has condemned the Cuban issue as extraneous).

"The United States is leading the other three (members of the Contact Group: Britain, Canada and West Germany) in support of South Africa's campaign to sabotage the efforts of the international community to find a peaceful solution to the Namibian problem leading to elections and independence."

He said the United States, motivated by economic and strategic interests, was assisting South Africa to delay a settlement "even to the extent of denying the Namibian people the knowledge of the type of electoral system they are to participate in."

SWAPO, however, had repeatedly stated it was prepared to fight "a free and fair election"...whether under a system of proportional representation or in single member constituencies, as long as the exercise was supervised by the United Nations.

Turning to racial conflict in southern Africa, Mr Nujoma accused Mr Reagan of "sympathising with the minority white settlers in South Africa because they happen to be fellow whites."

"We see the Reagan administration promote racial hatred in southern Africa and that is certainly a disservice to the whites there...particularly to the future generations. If the whites of South Africa and Namibia have to live in this part of the African Continent, they have to identify themselves with the interests of the indigenous people.

"Our future policy is to welcome the whites, because we feel they are part and parcel of Namibia. They will therefore be protected by the rules of the land as well as their properties. There is no single African who will go and rob or even take a little from a white person. Namibia is a huge territory, and it has enough resources at least to provide each and every citizen with a better living."

But Mr Nujoma believes his party's military wing — the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN) — has much work ahead before any settlement is reached. PLAN's role is to speed up the emancipation of Namibia and, therefore, is part and parcel of the policy of SWAPO to fight and liberate Namibia and its people from colonialism, imperialism, racism and exploitation of man by man."

He dismissed recent claims by spokesmen for the South-West Africa Territory Force that PLAN's latest thrust into "white" Namibia had been a failure. "The Boers themselves have been announcing their fatalities," he said.

He said PLAN had the capability to force South Africa to negotiate with SWAPO. "We have paralysed part of the economy of the country. The Ruacana hydro-electric supply to the Rossing uranium mine and to the rest of the country has been destroyed by determined cadres — men and women of PLAN — and more action will be taken against the racist economic infrastructure in order to ensure that the regime is forced to accept a genuine negotiated settlement under Security Council Resolution 435."

He said the failed South African-sponsored DTA, National Assembly and Ministers Council had been an "evil attempt to deceive the Namibian people into supporting a homeland system. But the Namibian peoples, under the leadership of SWAPO, are too politically mature and never supported these puppets until they collapsed.

"Any new attempt at an internal settlement will be fought with vigour and determination by PLAN and politically and diplomatically by SWAPO."

Mr Nujoma, who appeared relaxed and spontaneous throughout the interview, addressed me as a South African for the first time during my final question when I tried to press him on what assistance a SWAPO government would give the African National Congress of South Africa, with which it has close links.

"You are a South African. I think you are aware you are in danger as a white person if you don't join ANC while there is time," he said when I asked him to clarify his reply to my question.

I did not finally get a categorical answer, but was left with the impression that a SWAPO government would give whatever diplomatic, moral, and financial support it could to the ANC but not permission to establish bases in Namibia.

Mr Nujoma said talk by South Africa and the United States of ANC bases in a SWAPO-ruled Nambia was "cheap propaganda."

South Africa was "cunningly manoeuvring to maintain control" by implementing its "so-called constitutional dispensation," which included Coloureds and Asians but committed millions of Africans to "concentration camps known as bantustans."

South Africa was "sitting on a volcano which will explode one day and smash everybody, including Botha, to pieces," he said.

"As long as oppression remained (in South Africa) people will resist...even whites at a later stage will definitely join the struggle in order to eliminate neo-Nazism, facism, and racial oppression," he said. "The people of South Africa are already struggling inside South Africa and the outcome will never depend on Namibian independence."

"Certainly, Namibia is not going to be a base of oppression

against any other country ... but the people of Namibia will support the rights of the people of South Africa to freedom and independence."

SOUTH AFRICA

Commentary Views SWAPO'S Willingness for Cease-Fire

MB171752 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 May 83

[Station commentary: "South-West Africa Cease-Fire Prospects"]

[Text] With a United Nations Security Council debate on South-West Africa/Namibia scheduled for next month, SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma has once again become a paragon of peaceful pursuits and sweet reason in his public utterances.

In an interview with the *Rand Daily Mail* published on Monday, Mr Nujoma said that not only was SWAPO ready to sign a cease-fire now, but had been ready to do so ever since the Geneva talks in January 1981. In effect, this cease-fire story is SWAPO's perennial ploy which it trots out to counter the obvious fact that a terrorist organization which is not involved in violence is out of business.

It will be recalled that last year there was widespread excitement over cease-fire prospects, and August the 15th was given as a target date. However, while SWAPO was preaching cease-fire propaganda, South African security forces captured documents in Angola which specified the following orders from Sam Nujoma: That certain puppets in Namibia — in other words, the internal leaders — should be killed prior to a cease-fire; that arms caches be concealed in the territory, and that there should be widespread violence in Namibia at the time of signing a cease-fire agreement.

More recently, there has also been intense speculation over the possibility of the Cape Verde talks between South Africa and Angola leading to a cease-fire. However, so far it has been impossible to reach agreement on conditions that would not favor SWAPO and allow the terrorists to reorganize. At the same time, UNITA has warned that its forces would ignore any cease-fire or buffer zone established by South Africa and Angola, which introduces a complicating factor and underlines the need for an internal settlement in Angola between the MPLA and UNITA forces prior to a Namibian settlement.

As for Mr Nujoma's harking back to the 1981 Geneva conference, those talks, far from promoting SWAPO's cause, have gone down in history as a turning point in Western naivete towards the Namibian settlement drive. For the first time in a concerted way, Western leaders and the news media questioned or rejected SWAPO's claim to being the sole representative of Namibians. They demanded equal recognition for the internal parties, and they warned against the danger of the territory being drawn into the Soviet power bloc.

It was also following the Geneva talks that the United States developed a fuller awareness that a settlement in Namibia had wide ramifications. Only days after the Geneva talks, former American Secretary of State General Alexander Haig stated that the United States wanted a solution for Namibia that would not jeopardize the interests of countries with the same values and strategic concerns as the United States. And the main strategic concern, as spelled out by the Reagan administration, is to stop Soviet expansionism and the involvement of the Russians and their proxies in regional conflicts.

From that position through American insistence that a Cuban withdrawal from Angola was essential in order, to quote Dr Chester Crocker: "To achieve a peaceful and stable settlement in Namibia." Sam Nujoma now accuses the United States of sabotaging the settlement drive by introducing the Cuban issue, but Dr Crocker has posed a question to which Sam Nujoma has no answer. We wonder, he has said, how a young government in the fragile new state of Namibia can be expected to survive and prosper with a seemingly endless civil war on its northern border with substantial Soviet-Cuban presence nearby, and with the consequent prospect of a new sequence of intervention involving perhaps both South African and communist forces.

ZAMBIA

Prime Minister Mundia Leaves for London

MB181119 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 May 83

[Excerpt] Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Mr Nalumino Mundia left for London last night after a successful mission in Paris, where he negotiated for the rescheduling of Zambia's debts. The country's debts will now be rescheduled for over 10 years including a 5-year grace period.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe's Visit to Eastern Europe Analyzed

MB181519 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] It is an objective truth that in this political world no nation can live in isolation of the rest of the international community. The basis of this philosophical assertion is that man is a social being and consequently social conduct, mutual understanding and respect between nations is the motive force for peace and human progress.

Zimbabwe's external and internal policies have emanated from the fundamental principles of human dignity and respect, peace, and justice, as well as exchange of experiences in various domains of life between peoples and nations. The current visit by the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, to the German Democratic Republic, the Hungarian People's Republic and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is not the start but a continuation of Zimbabwe's progressive foreign policy. It is important to note that 3 years after attaining independence, Zimbabwe has managed to establish diplomatic ties with the majority of developed and developing countries in both the capitalist and socialist bloc.

The prime minister has already taken several trips to western and eastern countries — Asia, Southeast Asia and the United States of America. During his diplomatic itinerary the prime minister has managed to sign several economic and trade agreements with host countries. Comrade Mugabe also enlightened these countries about the situation in Zimbabwe and Southern Africa, while his delegation learned a lot about the achievements made by those nations. In view of this, it goes without saying that the tour of the GDR, Hungary, and Czechoslavakia by Comrade Mugabe constitutes one of the major advances in Zimbabwe's effort to integrate the experiences of other successful nations.

It is common knowledge that the Hungarian, the Czechoslovak and the GDR peoples built their countries into socialist states from the rubble and debris caused by the imperialist-sponsored Second World War. Zimbabwe will have the opportunity to see for itself how these heroic people managed to build and develop state enterprises and farms, as well as agricultural cooperatives, from scratch.

Considering the fact that Zimbabwe has opted for a socialist way of development, the postive results that accrue from the prime minister's visit are obvious. In any case, if we are to cite an example, the German Democratic Republic participated at the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair, and Zimbabwe also took part at the Leipzig International Trade Fair, thus underscoring the close relations between the two countries. Some Zimbabweans have already taken courses in various fields in the GDR.

The visit by the prime minister to these countries will certainly strengthen cooperation between them and Zimbabwe by way of signing important agreements in areas of common interest.

However, we are quite aware of delinquent elements in some Western mass media institutions who would like to portray the visit as a venture into what they call the traditional stronghold of [word indistinct] leader Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU. These journalists, who have been groomed in the reactionary ethics of sensationalism, have the reputation of fanning divisive contradictions between peoples and nations. The fact which must be recognized by all who are sane is that all the socialist countries and progressive organizations of the international community were supporting the struggle for national independence, and not individuals, as some Western journalists would like to believe.

The victory of the people of Zimbabwe in their liberation struggle has remained, and will remain, the victory of the whole socialist community and peace-loving people of the world. The prime minister's visit to the German Democratic Republic, the Hungarian People's Republic, and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic should be viewed from this progressive perspective. We therefore wish the prime minister success in his visits.

Information Minister Views Situation in Matabeleland

MB160956 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0825 GMT 16 May 83

[Text] Harare, May 16, SAPA — Security in Matabeleland had improved and people there had accepted the government and were moving about freely, the Zimbabwe minister of information, posts and telecommunications, Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, said in an interview published in Harare today.

The minister accused the foreign press of misrepresenting the sitation in Zimbabwe, and referred in particular to the South African press.

Dr Shamuyarira, who has just visited the area, also said he wished Botswana would adopt the Zambian policy of returning all people who crossed their border without proper documents.

"The security situation in Matabeleland has improved enormously. I travelled to Hwange, Plumtree and Gwanda and saw many civilian cars using the road...and travelling quite normally without any fear of being molested," the minister said.

Posts and telecommunication projects, suspended because of bandit activity in the last two or three months, had resumed, including a new telephone line between Gwanda and Colleen Bawn and repeater stations between Bulawayo and Victoria Falls and Bulawayo and Plumtree.

"I spoke to the workers on the site and they all informed me that they are now working normally without fear of molestation."

Dr Shamuyarira said the foreign press had given Zimbabwe a very bad image abroad. "I am still worried about the image.... We are doing a lot of work in the ministry through our press attaches to correct the image."

While some papers had improved their presentation, South African papers and South African-based correspondents "still continue to misrepresent the situation.

"But they now have a problem in that the situation had calmed down and the people they thought were in revolt against the government are in fact cooperating with the government."

Many correspondents had been pleasantly surprised to see the large turnout for the independence anniversay celebrations in Bulawayo.

"Many of the distinguished citizens of Matabeleland attended the prime minister's (Mr Robert Mugabe's) party at State House and the correspondents were disappointed that life was normal and that the prime minister and the government were conducting the celebrations in a normal way. The same applied to May Day."

Some correspondents who wanted continually to discredit the country now knew they ahd nothing to discredit. "They were thriving on creating the impession that the situation in Matabeleland was abnormal," Dr Shamuyarira said.

Land Bill To Grant President Acquisition Power

MB190843 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Two bills, on land tenure and land acquisition, are to be tabled before parliament. When the bill on land acquisition becomes law, the president will be empowered to buy land

compulsorily, assume ownership of alienated land, and repossess underutilized and unused land.

This was revealed by the deputy minister of land resettlement and rural development, Comrade Mark Dube, when he addressed the Zimbabwe Institute of Development Studies seminar on the agrarian question in Zimbabwe being held in Harare.

He said the land tenure bill is intended to provide a comprehensive and single tenure system with nondiscriminatory rights and obligations. Comrade Dube noted that the bill is also aimed at expanding the land distribution program with the ultimate aim of achieving increased productivity.

State-Owned Company Formed To Purchase Fuel

MB170714 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 16 May 83

[Text] The minister of industry and energy development, Comrade Simba Makoni, has announced the formation of a state-owned company responsible for the purchase of fuel. Speaking at a news conference in Harare today, Comrade Makoni said the new company is called the National Oil Company of Zimbabwe, PTY Limited.

A bill is to be put forward in Parliament when it resumes next month to make the company a parastatal organization. The function of the new company is to buy fuel from outside, get it to Beira, on to the pipeline, and supply distributors who will pass it on to retailers and wholesalers.

The National Oil Company of Zimbabwe is expected to start operations by the first of next month. Former director of energy in the ministry, Dr (Mark Zeranyika), becomes the operations manager of the new company. His duties will involve negotiating contracts from outside and distribution of fuel to major storage facilities.

The government is also to take direct control of storage facilities by ensuring that they are filled up with fuel. Negotitations are underway for a complete takeover of all the storage facilities.

The minister said these moves by government have been taken because of the recognition of the fact that the supply of fuel is an area where government has to take direct control.